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# True Briton.

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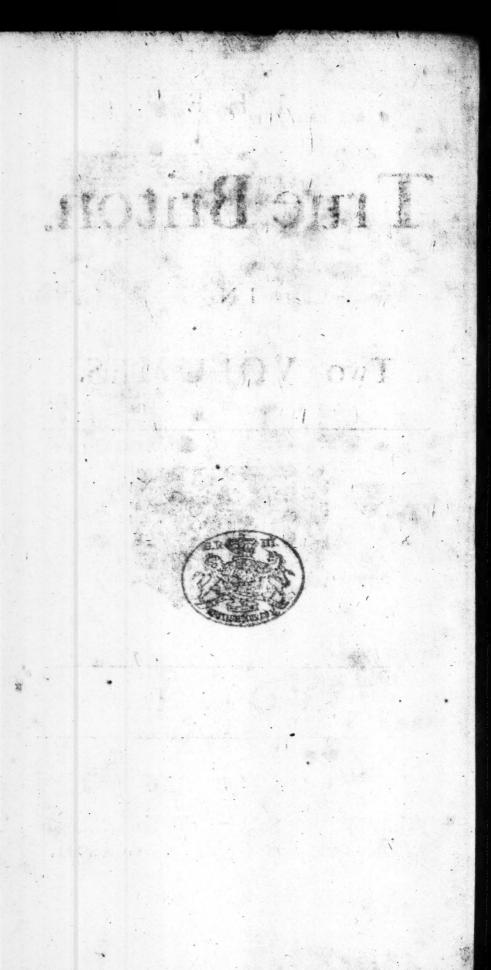
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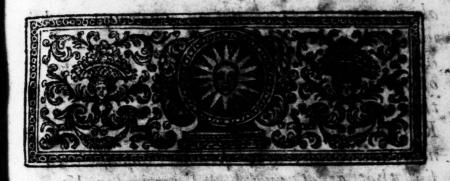


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#### THE

## PREFACE.



HE Reason which induces me to publish the following Papers at this functure, is, that Posterity, as well as the present Age, may be able to judge, robether they

were wrote with an Intent to serve or preju-

judice this Country.

No Person can prevent the Misrepresentations of Mankind; and we have frequently seen, that the greatest Heroes and most able Ministers that ever adorned a Kingdom, could not escape the Virulency of Scandal: It is, therefore, no Wonder, that the Malice of the World should decypher a Desire of doing Good, into a petulant Humour of doing Mischief, and, according to their usu-

#### The PREFACE.

al Language, proclaim an uncorrupt and unbiass d Behaviour to be the Effect of Passion and Disappointments. Such Men judge of others by their own Maxims, and because they have not themselves the Courage and Resolution of following the Dictates of Honour and Conscience, esteem it impossible to find that great, moral and particular Vertue in other Men.

All these terrible Effects of our intestine Divisions should animate every honest Mind to lay aside those Party Resentments, which, in Time, must end in the Ruin of this

Island.

If we consider the Manner in which Old Rome lost her Liberties, it will show every Patriot how incumbent a Duty it is upon him to allay those Heats and Animosties which at present reign among stus.

The Civil Wars which at length overwhelmed the Liberties of that fam'd Republick, began by the Eagerness which Great Men shew'd for Power and Employments; several considerable Families, appearing divided, and spending vast Sums of Money in Elections, grew at length to be personally animated against each other; and when the most bitter Reslections, which they vented on all Occasions, had made a Reconciliation between them impracticable, they mutually endea-

### The PREFACE

endeavoured by Force and Violence to support their Pretensions, which occasion de the Civil Wars.

The Train of Ceneties which continued fo many Years unough them, and confirmed the greatest and most daring Spirits of the Common-Wealth, at length so wearied the People of Rome, that they tamely submitted to the Tyranny of one Man.—The Spirit of serving their Country was then exchanged for the Buseness of flattering their Tyrant, and then arose that idle and effeminate Disposition of Mind, which at present prevails in Italy.

Tacitus in his first Book of Annals, gives us so lively a Description of the Expiration of the Roman Liberty, that I shall refer my Readers to him, and trouble em no more on

this Subject.

I only mention'd this, to show, that the first beginning of the Calamities of Rome, was, the Bribery that was introduced by ambitious Men, and practiced in all the Elections of Magistrates; and therefore I am sure my Fellow-Countrymen will be very careful how they suffer so dangerous a Practice to take the least Root in our Government;—for certainly, Men, who have a Desire of Serving their Country in Parliament, can have no View in being chose, but the perform-

#### The PREFACE

performing that great and commendable Duty.

In the different Divisions that have di-Aracted us for many Tears, there have appeared Men of great Characters and diftinguish'd Merit on both Sides; and for my Part. I think we ought to judge as charitably of our Cotemporaries as we do of our Ancestors; and believe that there are many Men now living, who have sincerely at Heart the true Interest of these Kingdoms. I be a sure to the hotel

I shall always make it my particular Bufiness to direct all my Views to this great End, and if by that Means I can enjoy the Satisfaction of knowing, that, in my little Sphere, I have used my best Endeavours, according to my Capacity, for the Advancement of the Publick Good, Tefteem it far beyond accumulated Riches, and immense Treasures without it; and hope, that as long as I continue to tread those Paths with Spirit and Resolution, I shall not lose the Characier of a TRUE BRITON.

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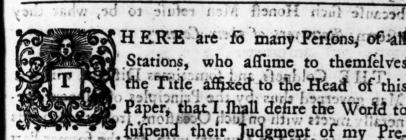
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HERE are fo many Persons, of all Stations, who assume to themselves the Title affixed to the Head of this Paper, that I shall defire the World to fulpend their Judgment of my Pretensions to it, 'till they see whether in my Conduct there appears that Candour, Sincerity, and Love of LIBERTY, which are the distinguishing Character. ifticks of every T.R.U E.BR I.TO Nother bus

the Comfort and Pleasure of having done the s

THE First essential Ingredient necessary to form a PATRIOT, is, Impartiality; For if a Person shall chink himself bound by any other Rules but those of his own Reason and Judgment, or obliged to follow the Dictates of Others, who shall appear the Heads of the Party he is ingaged in, he sinks below the Dignity of a Human Creature, and voluntarily resigns those Guides which Nature has given him to direct him in all Spheres of Life.

THIS is but too much the Misfortune of the Country we live in; for let either Whig or Tory, when in Power, grow wanton in the Abuse of it, or endeavour to maintain themselves in the Enjoyment of it, by Illegal and Unwarrantable Measures; those a mongst them, who, by the Instuence of their Consciences, shall be prevailed on to oppose such Steps as they judge wicked and dangerous, are stilled by the teading Men of the Party they were engaged in, (and, consequently, reputed by their numerous Train of Sycophants and Followers) Deserters of their Friends, because such Honest Men resuse to be, what they esteem, Betrayers of their Country.

THE Coldness, and sometimes Disdain, which a Man governed thus by the Principles of Honour, generally meets with on such Occasions, from the Friends he has ever acted in Concert with for the former Part of his Life, are Considerations which but too often subdue the best-inclined Spirits, and prevail with them to be Passive and Obedient, rather than Active and Resolute. But if such Persons could but once feel the Comfort and Pleasure of having done their Duty.

#### No.I. The TRUE BRITON.

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Duty, they would meet with a sufficient Reward within Themselves, to overballance the Loss of their Friends, or the Malice of their Enemies, and show or

frequently throw Shackles on the Hearts of Men who AMBITION and AVARICE are Two Vices which are directly opposite to the Character of a TRUE BRITON; For though an Increase of Power, or of Riches, may be the proper Reward of Honour and Merit, and the most Honest Statesman, may, with Justice, accept of either: Yet, when the Mind is infected with a Thirst after them, all Notions of Truth, Principle and Independency, are lost in fuch Minds, and, by growing Slaves to their own Passions, they become naturally subservient to Those who can indulge and gratify them.

lecu mos THE many Examples which every Age can furnish of the Mischiess which Ambitious and Avaritious Men have brought upon the Governments they have lived under, are obvious to all Mankind. In obscure Persons, these monstrous Vices frequently lead those that are possessed of them, into Mischiefs and Villai. ny, and are often the Causes that have brought mean Offenders under the Hands of the Law. But whenever, for the Curse of a Government, the Greatest Statesimen are endowed with these Springs of Corruption and Knavery, the unfortunate Subjects who live under their Influence, must fall Victims to satisfy their gluttonous Appetites, and the State they prefide in, will be treated by them, as if it were given by Providence into their Hands, to gratify their cruel and destructive Passions. 12 de 18 vans leggo es se

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## The TRUE BRITON. No. T.

THE SE Vices, which they are not frong enough to work the Mind to Publick Knavery and Villamy. frequently throw Shackles on the Hearts of Men, who would otherwife act Uprightly, and restrain them from doing that which is warranted by Inflice and Honesty. How many Persons has this Country produced, in former Times, who, convinced of the True Interest of Great Britain, have avoided and declined to purfue it, for fear of loting a little inconfiderable Imployment, no way furtable to their Ranks or Fortunes? Can there be a more melancholy Prospect, than to fee Men of the greatest Abilities, Quality and Estates, make it their utmost Defire, to be admitted Tools to a Court, where they ought to prefide, and make no other Use of the Advantages Heaven has given them, than to support those at the Helm in their Attempts to destroy the State ? Neither do these misguided Persons consider, That they must, of Course, be involved in the Common Ruin, and fall the First, because they are the Greatest, Sacrifices to the Ambition and Avarice of Evil Miniflers. Offenders whiler the Minds of the Law

OUR Age affords no living Instance of this Nature, such is the Care, Justice and Reputation of our Governours, and the Independency of both Houses of Parliament.

IN Publick Affairs, it is the Duty of every Man to be free from Personal Prejudices: Neither ought we to oppose any Step that is raking for the Good of our Country, purely because those that are the Contrivers and Advisers of it, are obnoxious to us.

There

There are but too many Precedents of this Nature, where Men have cast the most Black Colours on the Wisest of Administrations, because those that had the Direction of Affairs, were their Enemies in Private Life; and this ill Way of Judging, may be attended with dangerous Consequences to the Common-Weal.

INTREPIDITY and FERMNESS are Two Virtues which every TRUE BRITON must be Matter of, or else all the other Talents he is possessed of, are Useless and Barren.

A M A N may be Honest, Just, and Righteous; but if he is Fearful and Timorous, he will stagger when these great Qualities are most needful to be exerted for the Good of his Country, and he finks into a Lukewarm Patriot. Some Men of Integrity have been prevailed on to remain Quiet and Unactive, to avoid the Reflections cast upon them by Vulgar Tongues, and the Hackney Scribblers of each We have heard of considerable Men, in late Reigns, who have retired into the Country, and left the Power of Government in the Hands of Others, for fear, if they opposed the Measures then pursuing, they should be branded with the Odious Names of Jacobites and Difaffected Persons. Such Men as thele. who, though Honest in Theory, yet fear to be fo in Practice, should consider, That of all the Duties which Nature first required, and Reveal'd Religion has fince confilm'd, None is more strong or more neceffary, than That we owe to our Country. Whoever, therefore, when he has form'd a Judgment on any Subject relating to the Government, yet dreads to B 3 declare

#### 6 The TRUE BRITON. No.1.

declare it by his Actions in that Station of Life, where he is naturally call'd upon to do it, becomes, by his Inactivity, a Party to the very Measures his Reason blames, and his Conscience condenns.

In England this Pufillanimity is more to be warded against, than in most other Countries : For whenever there has appeared an Ill defigning Ministry, one of their chief Views has been to traduce and terrify those who have had the Courage to adhere inviolably to the Liberties of the Subject. This Method has been generally purfued, and the Situation of Affairs here, has always furnished the Tools of a Government with Means to oblige their Masters, and obey their Commands in this Particular. When the Tories have been in Power, those who did not give Supplies, or an-Iwer their Intentions, were instantly called, Foes to the Church, and Republicans: And the Whigs never fail to stile their Antagonists, Foes to the State, and Jacobites. But a Bold and Daring PATRIOT will forn these little Slanders, nor suffer them to obstruct his Loyalty and Integrity. Such a Person will weigh his Actions in the Scale of Reason and Justice; and when once they are agreeable to those Principles, he will purfue his Courfe steadily, and, despiting all his Enemies can say of his Behaviour, will not suffer their Malice to be a Protection to their Wickedness. Such a PATRIOT will propose no other Prospect but the Publick Good of the Common Wealth; and if, in the attaining of that Great End, by the Villainy of the Times, he should fall a Martyr to his Country, he will, with Comfort, confider, That he has answer'd the Will of his MAKER, who sent him into

#### No. I. The TRUE BRITON.

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into the World to do Good; or dye, rather than not oppose Evil.

HERE might we go back into History, and see, with what great Lustre the Names of such Heroes are deliver'd down to Posterity; and how much more They are esteemed who perish in a Good Cause, than Those who triumph in a Bad One. But this is unnecessary at present: For our Co-Temporaries, especially the Chief amongst us, are all Friends to Justice; and no Man is injured in his Liberty or Fortune: Such is the Wisdom and Integrity of the present Ministers!

Common Wealth, to promote the Welfare of it, as much as his Situation of Life will permit him; And, therefore, those who act in a Little Sphere, ought to exert their Zeal with as much Sincerity, as those of Greater Figure or Power. Such as can have no other Opportunities of publishing their Thoughts, but by communicating of them to the World in Print, wou'd be wanting in their Duty, shou'd they neglect taking that Method of informing their Fellow Subjects of Matters, which perhaps, otherwise, might escape their Knowledge, tho' necessary for them to be acquainted with.

THE Liberty of Speech, in Parliament, is the Greatest Jewel that adorns our Government, and frequently has put a Stop to the Designs of Bad Men, when they were attempting the Subversion of the Constitution. It has, indeed, frequently been dangerous, and often destructive, to Patriots who have made the Best Use of it; but yet there have always been,

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#### S THE TRUE BRITTON. NO. IN

and I hope ever will be, in both Houses, Men of Honour, Honesty and Intrepidity, to imploy the Taken? God has endowed them with, in the Service of their Country; and whom neither Hopes can tempt, or Fear deter from pursuing the Publick Good tadw drive from the Fear deter from pursuing the Publick Good tadw drive from the Fear deter from pursuing the Publick Good tadw drive from the Fear deter from pursuing the Publick Good tadw drive from the Fear deter from pursuing the Publick Good tadw drive from the fro

THE Freedom of the PRES of sanother Bul wark of our Liberty and there heeds no greater Argument to prove it, than the frequent Attempts that have been made to defind it, under Pretence of Refusion ing of it. Wicked Men must naturally labelit to have their A Tions conceard, or, at least, 16 published, that every Person should credit the Glosses which they themselves throw upon them; But the Judicious Part of Mankind will be inform d of every Circumstance be fore they peremptorily give an Opinion on any Matter whatflever " In Civil Cales, no Man's World bught to be taken in His own Caule, not when the attempts to juffify an Action he is accused one Buta all Parties Min be heard before the Court tan proceed to give Sentence ! And therefore the People of England will, in Publick Marrers, expect the fame Olage before they determine to Blame or Applated any Action what io. Matters, which perhamono or velle diche no rieve

A Person who writes on Political Subjects, ought to be free from Partiality, and every other Vice which may sway his Sentiments, or induce him to repletent Matters in False Lights; and, I hope, my Behaviour in the Sequel of this Work will convince the World, That my Only Intention in publishing these Sheets, is, To lay Truth open; and in such a Manner, as becomes one who determines To Live and Dye a TRUE BRITON.



#### date Ra Hopad fuch Things,

# TRUE BRITON

#### NUMB. II.

Ubi militem donis, populum annona, cunctos duladine ocii pellexit; insurgere paulatim, munia senatus, magistratuum, legum in se trahere, nullo adversante; cum serocissimi per acies aut proscriptione cecidissent: ceteri nobilium, quanto quis servitio
promptior, opibus & honoribus extollerentur: ac
novis ex rebus aucti, tuta & presentia, quam vetera
& periculosa mallent. Tacit, Annal. L. Cap. 2.

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 7. 1723.



HOSOEVER confiders the Constitution of this Government, must esteem it a Blessing to live in a Country where the People must, by their Representatives, consent to the Laws by which they and

their Posterity are bound; and where there is so just a Ballance between the Presogative of the Crown, and the Liberty of the Subject.

THE

#### 10 The TRUE BRITON. No. II.

THE KING, who has the whole Executive Power lodg'd in Him, is, properly, the Guardian and Protector of the Law. The House of Commons speak the Sense of the Nation in Parliament; and the Lords are the Mediators between the Crown and the People. These Three Powers concurring, have an undoubted absolute Right to enact such Things, from Time to Time, as they shall judge necessary, for the Desence and Welfare of the Kingdom; and we may justly say, That we have all the Advantages of Monarchical Government, mix d with the Sweets of Free, dom and Liberty.

IT was for the Preservation of this Excellent Conflictution, That the REVOLUTION was happily brought about, in the Year 1688: And it was for the Continuance of it to future Ages, that the Wisdom of the Legislature settled the Crown in the Protestant Line, by securing the Succession of it to His Present Majesty, and His Illustrious Family.

THE open Attempts that have formerly been made to destroy the Liberty of the Subject, and introduce Arbitrary Power, in the Reigns of Princes, where Evil Ministers bore too great a Sway in the Councils, have ever prov'd Fatal to those that contriv'd or promoted them: The Missortunes of King Charles the First, and the Abdication of King James the Second, are recent Instances of the Truth of this Afsertion.

WE enjoy, under the present Happy Establishment, all the Comforts of a Mild, Just, and Wise Reign;

#### No. II. The TRUE BRITON. it

Reign; and whilst it shall please God to permit His Majesty, or His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, to sway the Sceptre, every Briton must think himself secure of his Religion, Liberty, and Property. But if some wicked and artful Man should, in a suture Reign, attempt to sap the Bulwarks of our Liberty, which have stood the Shock of many a Storm, I tear his Counsels might be attended with more certain Ruin to the State, than open Force and Violence,

IF once such a Scheme was pursuing, the visible Method most likely to effect it, would be, To introduce Slavery under the Species of Liberty, by making Use of Parliamentary Power, and amusing the People with an Appearance of Law to warrant the most Illegal Actions.

THIS was the Opinion of those great Patrons of our Civil and Religious Rights, who plac'd the late King William on the Throne; And Two Clauses in the English Declaration of Right, do expressly say, That the Election of Members of Parliament ought to be Free: And, That the Freedom of Speech, or Debates and Proceedings in Parliament, ought not to be impeached or question'd in any Court or Place out of Parliament.

THE First of these Clauses was undoubtedly calculated to prevent the apparent Mischiess which must attend this Country, if those who ought to be the Representatives of the People, should be return'd to Parliament without being duly chose, or owe their Elections to such Ministers, who should support these unjust Proceedings.

IF

#### 12 The TRUE BRITON. Not

IF ever Sheriffs are nam'd by the Crown on Purpose to be serviceable in this Particular: If ever Money is issued out by the Treasury to certain Persons, for defraying the Expences of Elections; and such Mensucceed in their Bribery; Can'a House of Commons thus constituted, be said to speak the Sense of the Nation? Or will they not, rather, be proper Tools to work the Destruction of it?

THE Second Claule I have mention d, relates to the Freedom of Debates; and if an evil Minister should ever, by Pensions and Places, corrupt the Minds of the Members, and intimidate them with the Loss of their Imployments, if they inclin'd to oppose his Will in any one Instance, such a Person may be properly faid, To impeach and question the Freedom of Speech or Debates in Parliament in a Place out of Parliament.

THIS Manner of Inflaving us, cannot be effect, ed in our Time, there being so Glorious a Spirit in both Houses for the Support of our present happy Establishment: But it will be undoubted Ruin to all that is dear to us, whenever we see the Authority of a corrupt Parliament imploy'd to bring us under those Missortunes which we have hitherto sav'd our selves from, at the Expence of so much Blood and Treasure.

THE People will acquiesce under such Grievances, because the Forms of Government will be kept up, and whatever is affented to by Lords and Commons, will have the Appearance, as well as Force of Law; though both those Bodies should be as Servile and as Inconsiderable as the Senate and Assemblies of

#### No. II. The TRUE BRATON 1

the People of Rome were, under the Roman Emperors, and Riches Hall. But wall were the Roman Emperors.

THE Escape which this Kingdom has lately had from the Unnatural Conspiracy, has, I hope, sufficiently secured our Happiness; and the Harmony which appear'd through all Parts of the Kingdom for the Support of our present Government, at that Important Juncture, gives our Enemies no Room to expect better Success in any future Attempts.

HIS MAJESTY, at the Opening of the last Sessions, acquaints his Parliament with the Nature and Danger of the Plot. Both Houses, in the most Dutiful Mainner, assure Him of their unalterable Zeal for his Government; and, as the First Proof of it, They salpend, for the Space of One Year, those Laws of Liberty, which are the Greatest Security the British Subjects can boast of.

THIS Action of the Legislature, was, undoubtedly, a fingular Instance of the great Confidence the Parliament reposed in the King; And whether the Danger of the Plot did require such an Extraordinary Step to be taken, is referred to those who have read the Reports of both Houses.

THE Consequences of the Inquiry which was alterwards set on Foot, are, The Execution of Mr. Layer; the Banishment of the Bishop of Rochester; and the Imprisonment for Life of Plunker and Kelly. These Three last Persons received their Sentences by the Legislative Authority; and the Power of Parliament interposed to supply the Desect of Legal Evidence.

#### 14 The TRUE BRITON. No. H.

IT is certain, Parliaments are not ty'd down to purfue the strict Forms of Westminster. Hall. But when they prescribed the Rules of Evidence which are observ'd in those Inserior Courts, they thought them warranted by Justice and Reason, and esteemed them the most proper and natural Methods to clear the Innocent, or convict the Guilty. When, therefore, they proceed in a different or opposite Manner, it must be imply'd, That they no longer think their former Maxims of Law convenient or necessary.

IN the Case of Sir John Fenwick, though the Single Point then required, was, To make the Deposition of Goodman, which he had made upon Oath before the Grand Jury, supply the Defect of his viva voce Evidence, when it appeared, he was industriously spirited away by the Prisoner; yet it was looked on as dangerous to the State, even in that Particular, to vary from the Rules of Law. Great Debates ensu'd in both Houses; and, after a very long and formal Hearing. the Bill was passed by a finall Majority. In the House of Peers, the House was called over twice each Day, and every Absent Lord was Censur'd and Fin'd. Such was the Opinion then entertain'd of the Great Confequences that might attend a Bill of that Nature, if ever we should see that Method of Proceeding established by such a Precedent.

THE Bills of Pains and Penalties against the Persons above-mentioned, are drawn in a different Manner than the Attainder of Sir John Fenwick: For, in his Case, the particular Circumstance of Goodman's Withdrawing, is mentioned in the Preamble, to shew in what Point the Assistance of Parliament was requi-

#### No. II. The TRUE BRITON.

red: But in these Bills, the Preambles contain General Affertions, without mentioning the different Sorts of Evidence which the Legislature must admit of, before they could judge the Prisoners Guilty.

THE Charges in the Preambles of these Bills, are for High-Treason; but the Punishment salls short of what Persons Guilty of that Crime, deserve, and are to undergo, according to the Laws of the Realm. So that they, in Two Respects, are contrary to the Practices of the Courts of Westminster-Hall; both as to the Evidence for the Proving the Crime; and the Sentence which is pronounced upon a Conviction.

IT is the Greatest Pleasure which any Englishman can enjoy, To see, that the Methods pursued by the Parliament, the granting an Augmentation of the Troops, have so far established Peace amongst us, and plac'd this Kingdom on so secure a Foot, that His Majesty can, with Safety, venture to visit His German Dominions: And that even Great Offenders are to enjoy the Fruits of His Majesty's Mercy.

IN a late Reign, it was esteemed a very great Crime in the Ministry then, to suffer Sir Patrick Lawless, though in the Service of Stain, to reside here; and a very Great and Judicious Statesman, in a Debate on that Subject, when he had complained of it to the House of Commons, and traced this Gentleman through many Instances in which he had endeavoured to support the Cause of the Pretender, seem'd to think it Extraordinary, to find him, after that, in the Queen's Closet.

#### 16 The TRUE BRITON Nº. IL

THE Power of the Crown may certainly pardon Criminals. I shall not trouble my Readers any more on this Head; But only repeat another Clause of the Declaration of Right, which says, That the pretended Power of Suspending of Laws, or the Execution of Laws, by Regal Authority, without Consent of Partiament, is Illegal.

from the King in the Case of the Bishop of Rocbester, And what a Missortune it is to that Prelate to be debarred from receiving the Effects of His Majesty's Merciful Disposition, is now visibly apparent; Since others, who have been more deeply ingaged in Wicked Measures, than the Bishop is even pretended to have been, and who have justified the Sentence of the Law by their Behaviour after they sled from their Country, are tasting the Sweets of the Royal Clemency.

THE KING can, by his Prerogative, discharge even Plunket, who appears concerned in the Blackest Part of the Plot, from that Imprisonment which is the Punishment of his Crime: But he cannot, without the Consent of Parliament, permit the Bishop of Rochester to return Home, and end the Remnant of a declining Life in the Country where he was born and educated.

THE Justice of these Proceedings by Bills of this Nature, and the Rigor of the Penalties inflicted by them, are only to be supported by the Strength of the Evidence that induced the Legislature to enact Persons Guilty in this Extraordinary Manner.

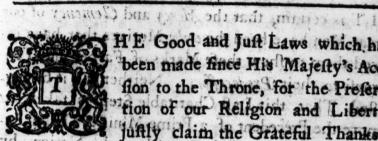


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Accipe nunc Danaum infidias. VIRG.

MONDAY, JUNE 10 1723.



HE Good and Just Laws which have been made fince His Majefty's Acceffion to the Throne, for the Prefervation of our Religion and Liberties, juftly claim the Grateful Thanks of

its Representives, judged detiructive to the representation of the three to the transfer of the three to the transfer of the t THE Difaffected Part of the Kingdom have maliciously endeavoured to fill the Minds of the People with Fears and Jealoufies, that fome of the Steps taken by the Legislature, might tend to weaken the Foundation of our Government; but the Arguments urged in Windication of thost of these new made Laws, vis. The Necessay of Affairs, and the Publick Danger, have certainly their proper Effect to stop fuch idle Rumours. His Majesty, and his Family,

#### 18 The TRUEBRITON, No. came hither to defend and protect our Religious and Civil Rights, and have inviolably purfued that Great End with Steadiness and Resolution.

THE First Care of the Ministry, at the Beginning of the present Reign, was, To punish those who had prevailed on Her Late Majesty to frown upon the Whigs, and to remove them from the Imployments which they injoyed under Her; But Severity foon disappeared, and this Government so far approved of the Choice then made by the Queen, that the Noble Lord that was her Chancellor, is now one of the Regents; and He, who was Secretary of State, is pardoned, though under an Attainder, and is returning Home to exercise his Great Talents, for the Support and Defence of the present Administration.

I T is certain, that the Mercy and Clemency of our Great Men have been the only Motives that have induced them to shew these Marks of Favour and Tenderness to their Predecessers. Neither can it be suggested, That this Last Charitable Step is taken, to remove the Precedent of a Prime Minister's being Attainted, for giving fuch Counsel as the Nation, by its Representatives, judged destructive to the Publick Welfare, and edi to mad before Middle of H T

heleufly endeavoured to fill the Minds of the THE Septennial Act is fresh in every Man's Me. mory. Frequent Parliaments were ever look'd upon as the Greatest Defence of the Liberty of the Subrect; and the Triemial Law was effected one of the most essential Advantages gained by the Revolution. But the Necellity of Affairs forced the Last Parliament, in their Second Sections, to continue Themselves, and establish.

People

# No.3. The TRUE BRITON. 19 establish a Precedent which may bereafter point out, to some Future Ministry, a Method of keeping toge. ther a House of Commons composed of their Creatures and Pensioners, 'till they have destroyed and overturned the Constitution. The Danger apprehended from the Pretender and his Adherents, forced the Legislature into this Measure, however it might be represented by our Enemies as unjustifiable, for a Set of Men, intrusted by the Kingdom for Three Tears only, to prolong their Trust for Four Years, without the Consent of their Principals.

THE Riot Act is an effential Security to this Government, and was made necessary to defend us from the Attempts of our Enemies. By this Law, if a Number of Persons exceeding Twelve, shall be afsembled together, any Justice of the Peace is Authorized to fead a Proclamation and; in case they should not disperse within two Hours, they are all Guilty of Felony, without Benefit of the Clergy. The Execution of this Law is vested in the Magistrates who are appointed by the Crown, and may be, if abused, attended with great Inconveniences. There is one Instance which at present occurs to me, wherein this Act has done fingular Service to the Publick. In the late Times of Confusion, occasioned by the Fall of South Sea-Stock, feveral of the Ameritants were affembled in a Publick Hall of the City to confider of the best Measures they could pursue to relieve themselves and Families from Apparent Ruin, and a Sheriff of London came into the Midft of them to read the Proclamation, and to differit these Unfortunate Persons. The Late King Jomes, when in Ireland, made an Order of the like Nature. to pre-

# vent the Meeting of Protestants: And had such a Law been in Force in England before the Year 1688, it would have made the Revolution more difficult than the Providence of God permitted it to be.

overtuned the Confirming. The Day or apprehen-STANDING ARMIES have ever frightened all the Friends of Liberty; and it is Illegal to keep an extraordinary Number of Men on Foot, in Time of Peace, without the Consent of Parliament. After the Treaty of Ryswich, His Late Majesty King WILLIAM was forced to Cashier his Troops, though in Times of Danger. And this was done when Lewis the XIVI was living, who had the Power, as well as Inclination, to diffres us. Queen A N N E, to the Glory of her Administration, as foon as She had concluded the Peace of Utrecht, removed, all the Jealousies which Her Subjects might have enterrained, had She kept her Army rogether, and, without expecting the Remonstrances of Parliament, voluntarily disbanded it.

recution of this Law is veffed in the Magillentes AT present, the Conspiracies that have been formed by our Intestine Enemies, have induc'd the Legiflature to permit a Body of Troops to be maintained; which, were there an Inclination in the Ministers to commit Acts of Violence and Oppression, would be able to support and defend them against all Attempts that might be made to bring them to Justice. Manner in which they are subjected to Martial Law, gives great Power to the commanding Officers, who are Masters of the Lives of every Common Soldier, and is more than necessary to give such Officers proper Authority over their respective Corps. That such a Number of Subjects should not have the Benefit of being 2004

No. 3. The TRIVIE BRUTO N. 21
being try'd by their Peers, founds harfuly to a Britip
Ear. not not your so new Region blood off the
flower whom polymer one where I to one it their a

THE Troops which we now have are Necessary for our Security; and we ought to thank both Houses, for their Zealous Manner of establishing them? But if hereafter it should be endeavour'd by any Wick; ed Administration, to overturn the Government, they never would want a Standing Force to Support them in their Attempts, if once they could bribe a Majority in the Parliament. And an Army thus Legally kept on Foot in the Hands of fuch Evil Counfellors, would not be less dangerous to the Constitution because it was established by the Legislature : The People would acquiefce, and think themfelves fafe, when they should be told, the Commons had affented to it ; and little would thoy imagine, That a Ministry, at the Head of a Majority in both Houses, could never act Illegally, because they would make every Thing Law that their Ambition or Avarice should prompt them THE lords and other Centernen who were or

OUR Factions Within, are the only Reasons for the Maintaining the present Army: For our Affairs Abroad are in so flourishing a Condition, that a General Peace wants nothing but the Forms of a Congress, and the Princes and States in Alliance with us, have given the greatest Proofs of their sincere Wishes for our Prosperity, by discovering to his Majesty the Hellish and Dangerous Plot that has lately been so Happily and so Artfully prevented.

the Toney, are admitted to Dail, offer a long Con-

THE frequent Suspension of the Habeas Corpus
Act, has been absolutely necessary from Time to
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#### 22 The TRIVE BRITON. No. 3

Time, to enable His Majesty to secure such Persons as He should suspect were carrying on Conspiracies against His Royal Family, and, consequently, against the Welfare of the Kingdom.

for our Security, and we oping to thank both Houses.

THE Manner in which the Time of Suspension has been increased by Degrees, is to be justified by the Nature and Danger of the several Plots; and at present the Subjects are to be debaned for a Twelve month of the Benefit of that Excellent Law, because of the Unnatural and Wicked Scheme form'd by Layer, Naynoe, and his Accomplices.

THIS Power vested in the Crown for the Publick Security, may, if unjustly executed, prove the Ruin of many Faithful and Honest Britons; But there is not one Instance in which the present Ministers have exerted it to any other Purpose but that for which it was intended.

THE Lords and other Gentlemen who were in the Tower, are admitted to Bail, after a long Confinement; and it is not to be doubted, but that when this was done, the Clause of the Declaration of Right, met with the greatest Regard, which says, That excessive Bail ought not to be required; nor excessive Fines imposed; nor cruel and unusual Punishments institted.

IF, hereafter, a corrupt and Wicked Administration should intend the Subversion of the State, and find it necessary to remove all those Patriots who appeared the most Zealous Assertors of Liberty, the Manner in which they would indeavour to work the

our Profession in Automator and

#### No. 3. The TRUEBRITON.

Destruction of such True Britons, would be, I fear, rendred most easy and practicable, if they could, by forming of a Sham-Plot, persuade the Legislature, it was necessary to intrust them with such an unlimitted Power.

A Parliament willing to be subservient to a Court, would not require Proofs to be made of a Conspiracy; but, on the single Word of the Ministers, would chearfully do all that should be asked of them; and it would certainly be in the Power of such a Parliament, To offer up the Laws, Rights, and Liberties of the whole Nation, to the King, to be disposed of by Him Arbitrarily, and at his Pleasure, and expressly contrary to Laws enacted for the Security of the Subjects. When once they had strengthned their Hands with such a Law, then they would Apprehend those who were the most obnoxious to them, and Consine them in the most barbarous Manner, without shewing the least Regard to Decency or Humanity.

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IN order to procure Evidence to convict such Unfortunate Men of Treason, they would have Recourse to Bribery, which will always be the great Engine of Tyranny. Proper Tools would be set to work, to find Men of convenient Principles for the attaining this wicked End, which would be stil'd, Doing of Justice to an injur'd Nation; And if any such cruel Instruments of Despotick Power should in the least relent, or decline Swearing away the Lives of Innocent Persons, they themselves would be exposed to the greatest Hazard. It would be dangerous for such Men to live, who could relate the Particulars of

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#### 24 The TRUEBRITION: No.

fo black a Transaction; and there never would be

forming of a Skam Wor, perfuade the Levilleness

IF fuch an unhappy Wretch should interrupt the Scheme laid for Destruction and Murder, all those to whom he possibly could relate his Misfortunes, would be detained in the firiteft Cultody, and almost starv'd to Death, by feeding on the Offals of a Meffen ger's Table. Hopes would be given to induce them; and Pears would be infinuated, to frighten them, into the Measures of such an Administration, or, if that should fail, into Silence. But if they remain'd del termined to declare the Truth, they would be represented as if they were Partners in the In vented Plot, though there should nor appear the least Colour of a Suspicion against them. They would be kept close Prisoners, and even Pen, Ink, and Paper would be denied them, that they might not communicate their Miferies and Innocence to the World? If any amongst them should be thought most capable of making what would be called a farther Discovery, he would be loaded with Irons, and by that Means, they would endeavour to Rack him, 'till he should speak a Language agrecable to their Inclination. If they should have any greater Power over the Life of a Man, than what is before mentioned, all that would be exerted in the most violent and remarkable Manner, to oblige him to declare Things he never knew, and fwear against Persons he scarce ever saw. Thus might the Greatest and Best Men in the Kingdom (if ever we should see such a Government) fall Vil clims to their Country by the Profeription of a Cruel and Merciless Triumvirate. But this is a Prospect as Distant as it is Horrid, and our Present Ministers exert their

No. 3. The TRUE BRIGTON: 25 their Justice for the Good of their Country, and renderit more Amiable, by tempering of it with Marcy.

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THE fatal Inflances England can produce of the Barbarity of former Reigns, must certainly they dearly the great Bleffings we onjoy under His prefers Majesty and His Wife Administration. The Cases of Russel and Sidney are fresh in every Man's Memory; and the latter was convicted on Similitude of Hands: Such was the Violence of the Times against him. His Attainder was afterwards Reversed, and one of the Causes assign'd for the Obliverating of it, is, The Nature of the Evidence on which he was condemn'd.

OUR Country is Famous for having maintain'd their Liberties, whilft most of our Neighbours were losing of theirs; and the Reason that has given us this great Advantage over the rest of Europe, is, That the Limits impos'd on the Crown, were inviolably maintain'd and defended by Authority of Parliament: And we may be secure of transmitting these Blessings to suture Ages, whilst there shall remain the same Steadiness and Resolution in those who are the proper Guardians of our Religion and Laws.

THE Execution of the Regal Authority, in the Absence of his Majesty, is lodged in our Fellow Subjects; and though his Majesty might safely be intrusted with all Kind of Power, yet it would frighten the Minds of People, to see it devolved into other Hands. But the Honesty and Integrity of those who are nominated for this Great Trust, dissipate all Aphensions of the Abuse of it.

## 26 The TRUBBRITON No. 3.

THE Act of Limitations has been thought Estantial for the Security of the Subject; but the Necessity of Affairs obliged the Parliament to permit his Majesty to visit His German Dominions, whenever he should see Occasion; which was done by Repealing a Clause in that Glorious Law. This Step was highly Reasonable, and the People will not have Cause to repent this Concession; for the King will never leave this Kingdom, but when his going into Germany will contribute to the Benefit and Advantage of Great-Britain, by settling the Affairs of the North, where His Royal Presence must bear the greatest Sway.

THE South-Sea Transaction, which was also thought necessary to discharge Part of the Publick Debt; and the Means since taken to restore the Publick Credit, are Subjects, which, in some future Papers, I shall give my Thoughts upon.

I HAVE gone through most of these new Laws which have been made since his Majesty's Accession to the Throne, and hope every Briton will agree with me in my Sentiments of the Laws themselves; of Those who contriv'd them; and of those who gave their Votes for the Passing of them in either House of Parliament.



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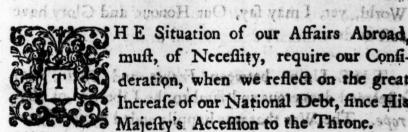


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## lick Expenses are lesen'd proportionally to the

Trojanas ut Opes, & lamentabile Regnum 7 on Eruerint Danai -VIRG. THE Two cufible Points that have contributed to

> this great lacreale of our tlebismare, The V FRIDAY, JUNE 14. 1723.



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HE Situation of our Affairs Abroad' must, of Necessity, require our Consideration, when we reflect on the great Increase of our National Debt, fince His Majesty's Accession to the Throne. twof Director was undereaten to pre-

HAPPY had it been for this Kingdom, if we had follow d the Example of our Neighbouring Nations, and made Use of the Opportunities which Peace and Tranquility have given us, to discharge ourielves of a Burthen which grows every Year more heavy, and must at length inevitably overwhelm us.

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#### 28 The TRUE BRITON. No. 4

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this great Misfortune, unless it once could be effected that the Expences of each Year should not exceed the Money given by Parliament for the Service of such Year; for though, in order to please the Country and statter the Populace, our Taxes may be decreas'd, yet it frequently happens, that when, the Year following, the Desiciencies of the Funds are to be made good, the Kingdom will find. That if they imagine the Publick Expences are lessen'd proportionably to the Taxes, they are grolly missed and decreved. We may often expend Three Shishings in the Pound, when only Two are levied: but then an After-Reckoning comes, and the Whole must be paid with Interest.

THE Two visible Points that have contributed to this great Increase of our Debts, are, The Mediter-ranean and Baltick Squadrons, and if our Fleets have carried Terror to those different Parts of the World, yet, I may say, Our Honour and Glory have cost us dear.

mulk of Negelity, require our Confi-

Frenewart Barchi -

THE Union between France and Spain, was effected dangerous and fatal to the Liberties of Europe. The War that was happily ended by the Treat ty of Utrecht, was undertaken to prevent the Mischiefs that might enfue, if a Prince of the House of Bourbon was to sway the Spanish Sceptre. Soon after the Death of Lewis XIV. the Interest of the Regent and King Philip began to clash; and we had a Prospect of seeing those Two great Powers so effectually disunited, that they would have been ingaged in a bloody

bloody and fatal War, whilst we might have been shinking of repairing the Losses we had sulfathed in the late Queen's Time, by maintaining such great Fleets and Armies, whilst other States in Alliance with us, prov'd defective in the Quora's which by Treaties they were oblig'd to furnish,

FR ANC E and England are as natural Enemies, as Old Rome and Carthage were, and the Power of the former can never be increased with Safety to the latter; and though particular Persons in both Kingdoms may believe their private Interest the same, yet the Publick Views of the Two Nations must be different.

HOWEVER, when it was thought for the Benefit of Great Britain to take a Part in this Dispute, we judged it most necessary for us to joyn with France, and thus to assist the Strongest Side against the Weakest; which was the only Way of forcing Spain to become subservient to the Regent's Pleasure.

WE did not consider the Benefit of our Trade, when we Proclaimed War with the Spaniards; for it is undeniable. That we might have received great Advantages in it from them; whereas by this Rupture, a fatal Blow was given to the Levant and South-Sea Trade.

THE King of Spain was induc'd to harbour the Pretender and his Adherents, which we might expect would be the Return he would make us; for entring into the Measures of the Regent and the Emperen; and the Emperen; and the Emperen; and the Emperen;

but no Person van believe, that he would not have abandon'd the Jacobite Interest, to purchase even our Neutrality on that Occasion.

WHEN the War was ended, which put the Publick to so great an Expence, and rain'd several of our Merchants who were concerned in those Branches of Trade which were then i interrupted; the only Advantages we obtain'd were, Sicily for the Emperor, a Re-establishment of our Commerce on the same Foot it was before the Rupture, and the Prevender's being removed from Spain: And these were the Benefits we reap'd from our Sea Triumphs near Sicily, and our Land Conquests at Vigo.

THE Emperor's Gratitude to us for this and former Favours, is Remarkable; for he refused to deliver up the great Offender Mr. Knight, to that very Parliament by whose chearful Assistance His Majesty was enabled to present him with Sicily; and the East-India Company at Ostend, form'd by his Letters Patents, will inevitably ruin our Commerce to those Parts. Nay, to carry on this last Project, he invites and incourages the Subjects of Great Britain to withdraw from their Country, and makes the Ships sent under his Colours and Protection into the East, Receptacles for the Offenders which have escaped from the Justice of our Laws.

ONE great Reason insisted upon to justify the ingaging in this War, was, The Danger there was of permitting Spain to be Master of Sicily and Naples; but whosever will consider the great Power of the

The TRUEBRITON. 31 Emperor, will foon fee, that Spain, though supported by these Additions of Strength, could never be able to ingage with his Imperial Majesty or France; and the particular Advantage which Great Britain was faid so receive by the Destruction of the Spanish Fleet, was frustrated, when on the Peace, all the Ships which we had taken from them, were restor'd; so that their Naval Power is still as confiderable as ever.

into to great an Excence and whore there did not ONE Circumstance in the Affairs of Europe at that Time, must convince every impartial Person, that the Attempts of the Spaniards were not very Formidable; fince the Dutch, who, of all other States in Europe, ought to be most jealous of His Catholick Majesty's Increase of Dominion, thought proper to remain Neuter at that important Juncture, and refus'd to ingage in a War where they esteem'd themselves unconcern'd. when I with with Event. b'arresonor

IMMEDIATELY after the Peace, which still wants the Forms of a Congress to make it General, the Crowns of France and Spain became so thoroughly united by the Inter-Marriages which foon enfued, that what we apprehended is now come to pass; and as their respective Interests must be ever the same, they are as Formidable as if they were govern'd by one and the fame King.

THE many Squadrons fent to the Baltick, have also considerably increased the National Debt; and there does not as yet appear, that Great Britain is to receive any Benefit from the fending our Fleets into that Part of the World. Ador prefent King of Sweden

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# 36 The TRUE BRITTON. NO.4. Imperor, will foon fee, that Spain, though the period

OUR first interposing in the Northern Assairs was to assist Denmark against the late King of Sweden; and we had paid too dear for entring into these Measures; had not the Providence of God reminated the Life of that Great and Unfortunate Prince.

THE Pretence taken for involving this Kingdom into so great an Expence, and where there did not appear any visible Advantage which was to accrue to us from it, was, The detaining some of our Merchant-Ships in the Ports of Sweden: But, upon Enquiry, it will be found, that no Vessel was stope, but what was carrying Ammunition or Provisions to those Countries with which Sweden was then in actual War; and this is no more than what is warranted by the Laws of Nations, and what was done by us to the Swedes themselves during the War with France.

WE foon chang'd our Manner of Acting, and became Allies to the very Kingdom which we had before Diffress'd. By this we provok'd the Czar, and hazarded the Lois of our Russa Trade, which must be allow'd to be an advantageous Branch of our Commerce.

THERE was no apparent Reason for these different Motions: But such was the Gratitude of the Princes for whose sake they were made, that the King of Denmark, in Return for the Fleet sent to his Assistance, gave his Majesty, as Elector of Hanover, Possession of the Countries of Bremen and Ferden; and the present King of Sweden has since bestowed

Nº 4 The TRUE BRITON. upon His Majesty the Legal Right to those Dominions.

IT is a vile and false Infinuation, that the Difaffected Party amongst us would make, that the obtaining and fecuring those Additions to the Electorate of Hanover, have been the fecret Springs that have govern'd and directed our Behaviour in all Foreign Affairs. These Persons would endeavour to persuade us, That even the Court which we pay the Emperor, is to induce him to grant the Investiture of them; and that some Scruples on that Head have retarded the Forms of a Congress at Cambray. But this cannot be true; for one express Clause in the Act of Limitations, forbids our being ingag'd in any War on Account of His Majesty's German Dominions.

THE Consequence of the King's being Master of those Countries, must be agreeable to every Loyal Subject; fince, in Case of any intestine Commotion; the Hanover Troops may, in few Hours, be transported hither from the Port of Harbourg, which is conveniently fituated for that Purpofe. The lang and repoling a juil O

THE melancholy Situation of our Publick Credit has been, in great measure, owing to the Increase of our Debt; and all those who are concern'd in the Funds, must be uneasy when they see such new Loads brought upon us, which will not eafily be discharged. Guiley, bolo a they had beard burn or given!

MINISTERS generally act in this Particular; as if their only Business was to contract Debts, and raife Money, and then leave to their Successors the

# 34 The TRUE BRITON. Nº 4.

Care of exonerating the Publick from such Incumbrances.

WE have had large Demands upon us on Account of the Civil-Lift, which our Parliament chearfully and readily comply'd with. What has occasion'd the Exceedings on that Head, has been the great Pensions granted to Persons of different Nations.

Minist Their Portion would ended with the

DID we not live in an Age where Virtue and Honesty stourish in the strongest Manner, it might be infinuated, That when a House of Commons grants Money with too much Alacrity and Chearfulness, they give as a Body, what the particular Persons that form the Majority, expect to receive a Share of; and thus are brib'd by the Publick Money, to enter into Measures which must tend to the Destruction of the State.

BUT this cannot be our Case; for there appears so much Integrity amongst the Commons, that they seem to have nothing at Heart, but the supporting the present Government with a Becoming Zeal, and reposing a just Considence in those who are intrusted with the Management of the Affairs of State. There cannot be a greater Proof of this last good Disposition, in which they have been since their first Meeting, than their voting the Eisshop of Rochester a principal Agent in the late Conspiracy, and, consequently, Guilty, before they had heard him, or given him the Liberty of making his Defence. This they did upon the Report of their Secret Committee, who were Members of the Privy Council, and no others.

THE Commons met with a suitable Return from the Ministry; tor, when they had sent up the Bill against that Reverend Prelate to the House of Peers, a Great Person who is at the Helm, did condescend to justify their Proceedings, by appearing an Evidence at the Bar, and giving his Testimony in a Cause he had been Ingag'd in as a Profecutor, and Voted in as a Judge. There were, indeed, some Points of Evidence given in that Tryal, which might make an Explanation necessary from that Great Honourable Person; but it was not out of any Private Reasons that He was induc'd to appear there; but out of that Regard for Truth and Justice which has so remarkably shin'd through the whole Course of his Life, I doubt not but that the Circumstances of his Behaviour will be related foon to the World, to shew his great Integrity and Impartiality; and, I hope, some Pen may be found to transmit it to Posterity in its proper and just Colours.

BUT to return from this Digression; It is now to be hop'd, that at length, our Finances will be put in a better Condition than ever; and what must give us the greatest Reason to imagine, that the utmost Care will now be taken not to add any further Incumbrances to those already contracted, is, The Honesty and Fidelity of Those who are intrusted with the Distribution of the Publick Revenues.

WE may always be certain, that we shall have Justice done us, in all Circumstances, when we see Men in Power who act without the least Prospect of Private

# 36 The TRUE BRITON. Nº 4.

Interest, and who refuse Riches and Honours when they have the Means of obtaining Both.

where he presides, who acts with Impartiality and Honour in the Station where the Favour of the Crown has plac'd him; and when it shall please Almighty God to take him from this World, leaves no accumulated Fortune behind him, which may remain a Monument of the Publick Robberies he must have committed to gain such immense Treasure during the Time of His Administration. Of this Great Quality, the Earls of Godolphin and Stanbope are recent Examples, who both were at the Head of the Treasury, and yet scarce died out of Debt.

AKINGDOM must not expect any Relief from their Burthens, whenever they see those who are to give it, heaping all the Riches together, which defrauding the Publick, and cheating their Master, can enable them to do; The more Money comes into their Hands, the more they shall be able to put in their private Purses, and the single Care of advancing their own Interest, will make them endeavour the Deftruction of the State. The getting an immense Estate in a little Time, without any visible Manner in which it was gain'd, was one of the Articles of Impeachment against the Earl of Clarendon; and if ever convincing Evidence is to supply the Place of Law, it must be, when Pains and Penalties are to be inflicted on a Perfon concern'd in the Publick Revenues, whose great and fudden Wealth is an undoubted and fufficient Proof of his Crimes.

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# TRUE BRITO

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Tutius est fissis igitur contendere verbis. OVID

MONDAY, JUNE 17. 1723.



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HE first Bill of Pains and Penalties which was the Effect of the Zeal that appeared in both Houses of Parliament for the Welfare of their Country, was that which Imprisons

with the translation; of I season.

John Plunket for Life, and takes away from him his Goods and Chattels.

T H O' the Interposition of the Legislature may be necessary in Extraordinary Cases, and where the Perfon accus'd is of such Consequence, that it might be dangerous to fuffer him to live amongst us, when it is apparent his Power might enable him, and his Inclination must lead him to effect the Destruction of our Government; yet I would observe, That all the Security we have gained by introducing fuch an Ex-

# 38 The TRUE BRITON. No 5. traordinary Method of Proceeding by Bill, is, That we now may remain free from those Fears which we

we now may remain free from those Fears which we naturally must have had, if *Plunket* had kept his Liberty or Estate.

THIS Man's Behaviour during the Course of his Tryal, betrays him to be a Person of mean Capacity, and more sit to sent be to a Madhouse, than confin'd as a Formidable Enemy to the Common-wealth.

World of his Credit with the Jacobite Party, is, The Correspondence which appears in the Appendix to the Report of the Commons, to have been between him and the Duke of Berwick: But, whoever will consider the Substance of those Papers, must remark, That the Contents of the Letters from the Duke, only mention the Receipt of Intelligence which this Plunker had sent him. Every Body must know, That the Court of St. Germains would be glad of employing any busy medling News-Monger to transmit to them Accounts of what was transacting in England: but there is nothing can induce any reasonable Person to believe, he was made use of to any other Purpose, or intrusted with the transacting of Treason.

THE Part which he is pretended to have acted in the late Conspiracy, seems very extraordinary, and the absurd Infinuations made by him, in many Instances, must convince every impartial Body, that he possibly could not be privy to any Real Plot, or he never would have suggested Persons to be well affected to the Pretender's Interest, who are ty'd by the Principles

#### The TRUE BRITON Nº 5. ciples of Gratitude, Justice and Loyalty, to the King, and the Support of His Administration.

eres of their Country, Vet they Link, they may differ IN the foul Draught of a Letter found amongst Layer's Papers, which is mark'd B 22 in the Appendix, and was proved to be Plunket's Hand by the positive Oath of a Witness who us'd frequently to copy for him, he has the Impudence to affirm, That he had Four Letters from Andiron, which is the Cant Name made use of to denote Count Bothmer; and that those, Letters were fent to Mr. Joseph, which is the Title he frequently gives the Pretender.

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HE fays, These Letters will improve to the Pretender's Advantage; and that if the Schemes laid down in them, were purfued, His Majesty might, in a short Time, be dethron'd.

IT is morally impossible to suppose, that a Person of Count Bothmer's Integrity and Honour, should be: fo deluded, as to enter into a Conspiracy against the Best of Princes: And tho' no one doubts the Loyalty and Gratitude of that Minister, yet it must be confes'd, that a Publick Justification, at so critical a Juncture, would have tended very much to the Credit of the Count, and the Pleasure of the King, who is certainly acquainted with the most minute Circumstances of this Inquiry.

IN another Letter marked C 41, he would have it believed by the Pretender himself, that the Whigs, as well as Tories, were inclined to ferve him: But this is so repugnant to the Principles of those Gentlemen. that it is monstrous to suppose, that they ever will depart

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## 40 The TRUE BRITON No

depart from our present happy Establishment; and tho' they may frequently make too free with the Liberties of their Country, yet they think they may dispose of those Blessings which they themselves purchas'd and maintain'd.

IN another of his Letters, C 51, he is so malicious as to declare, He is satisfy'd our Ministry would joyn with the Conspirators in proper Measures. But this is an Accusation against them, which is apparently False and Groundless.

ves the Mir Woder.

IN C 59, he acquaints his Correspondent, That he now and then received Hints from the Germans: But it is impossible to imagine, that these People could be so deluded as to give any Intelligence to this Person of what was doing at Court, or what would be of Prejudice to the King's Interest. They have met with such kind Treatment here, that the English are no longer accus'd of wanting Civility and Respect for Foreigners; and this Part, which they are charg'd with having acted, would be an ungrateful and unnatural Return. In the same Letter he arraigns the Wisdom and Integrity of Two Chief Ministers; and this last Suggestion betrays his Ignorance as well as his Malice.

HE has the Infolence of presuming that the Czar's coming with an Army to Hanover, might shake that Remarkable Steadiness which His Majesty has shewn for the maintaining his undoubted Title to the Crown of this Realm. But,

IN another Place, C 60, he avers. That the Germans are indifferent how foon they return into their

### Nº 5. The TRUE BRITON. 41

own Country: For, says he, they are for getting what they can, and don't care for staying longer than they are getting, and being in a Condition to serve themselves. But can this be believ'd, when it is apparent, that no Foreigner has had an Imployment under the King? Neither have any Titles of Honour been bestowed on any Germans, contrary to the true Meaning of the Act of Settlement.

IN C64, he carries his Infinuations much higher, and fuggests, That even the Great Man who chuses to deserve Honours rather than receive them, would give little Opposition to the Pretender's Measures. But this is so foreign from Truth, and so contrary to the whole Series of that Gentleman's Life, that it were taking up the Time of my Readers unnecessarily, to expose the Falshood and Villainy of such an Assertion.

THERE appears nothing throughout the whole Series of Plunket's Correspondence, which can be supposed, or even decypher'd to affect the Bishop of Rochester or Mr. Kelly; And if there had been one Single Point in any of these Letters that could convince the World this mean Offender esteem'd the Prelate as Zealous in the Pretender's Interest, as he represents Count Bothmer and the Germans to be, I dare affirm, it would have been a Circumstance produced by those who savour'd the Deprivation of the Bishop.

THE General Character which the World conceives of Particular Men, ought not to be an Argument in a Court of Justice for the Condemning or Acquitting of any Person; and yet we see some People who

### 42 The TRUE BRITON. Nº 9.

who are mentioned in these Treasonable Letters escape the Inquiry of Parliament, merely because Common Fame esteems them Innocent.

HOWEVER inconsiderable, both as to his Rank and Fortune, this Man was, if Justice and Rigour were to have been the Rules by which Persons were determin'd to act, the common Forms of Law were open to bring this Criminal to condign Punishment; and the Course of Justice need not have been turn'd out of its wonted Channel. There was one Positive Evidence of High Treason against him, and the Letter taken upon him from the Pretender, did amount to another Overt-Act, upon which a Jury might find him Guilty according to the strictest Rules of Westminster-Hall.

WHEN this Fellow was brought to oppose the Bill that was passing against him, he had no Council to assist him in the making his Desence, which he himself was wholly uncapable of; but the Consequence of bringing him to receive his Doom betore the Others supposed to be concerned, was, The admitting those Rules of Evidence in his Case, which proved afterwards Fatal to the Bishop of Rochester and Kelly: As one of the chief Reasons for the allowing of these Extraordinary Methods, was, That they had allowed them in the Case of Plunket, where Weakness and Inability rendered him a proper Person to go first, and establish the Precedent.

BILLS of Attainder ought to be kept as the last Resources for the bringing such Men to Justice, who have been Guilty of committing Treason against the People. This is a Black Crime, and may be compass'd

### N° 5. The TRUE BRITON. 4

pass'd with great Security; particularly, if the Power of Parliaments had been violated to Skreen and Support such wicked Men, when they had the Distribution of Money and Power. This is a kind of Treason which shall be the Subject of some stuture Paper, and justly deserves the Attention of every True Briton.

ALL Men are bound to forward Justice in their several Stations; and particularly if ever the Inclination of our Governors should lead them to make that Evidence sufficient for the Condemnation of a Fellow-Subject, which would be rejected were it brought to affect the most inconsiderable Property of the Kingdom.

distinguishing their Zeal for the Good of their Country; and those who are Without-Doors should do their Duty by supporting such Patriots, and acting in Concert with them. The City of London have it always in their Power to be Formidable to a Court; and the Great Earl of Shaftsbury made use of his Interest there to distress the Administration of King Charles the Second. There is one particular Privilege which they enjoy of Electing their own Sheriss; and when Authority is vested in suspicious Hands, they ought to consider, That Men of Prosligate Principles, impowered with Impanelling of Middlesex-Juries, may give away the Lives of every Honest Englishman, and send People to Tyburn, who ought to be Elsewhere.

THIS Confideration should make every Citizen careful how he gives his Vote in that Affair; and if ever there should be a Corrupt Ministry, they would spare

# 44 The TRUE BRITON. No.

fipare no Expence to carry that important Point, and the Bribing a Majority in the City of London to answer that Purpose, would save them Expence and Trouble on other Occasions.

EVERY fingle Man who supports the Interest of such Sheriffs as are Tools to a Cruel Administration, becomes himself a Party to the Barbarity and Murders he enables them Legally to commit.

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William to T. H. E. at J To a

# TRUE BRITON.

### NUMB. VI. Land and melli

Quisquis es, amissos nunc jam obliviscere Graios; Noster eris. — VIRG.

FRIDAY, JUNE 21. 1723.



H E following Letter came to my Hand on Monday last, and seems to be wrote by a Well-wisher to his Country. It claims a Place in this Paper, where I hope to have Opportunities of com-

municating more of this Correspondent's Letters to

SIR,

OU have very justly made, Impartiality the First Qualification of your TRUE BRITON; and I promise myself, you will secure your Title to that Part of your Character.

### 46 The TRUEBRITON. Nº 6.

I O call that Liberty to Day, which we call'd Liberty some Time ago; to esteem that to be Perfecution against one, which we should esteem to be Perfecution against another; to impute the same Effects to the same Causes; to call the same Things the same Things; though this may seem but a Low and Ordinary Degree of Understanding and Honesty, is yet that Greatness of Mind, that Impartiality of Judgment which very sew People arrive at.

NOTHING is more common, than for a Party of Men, in a small Course of Time, to forget themselves, and act contrary to those very Principles which made them a Party. Parties will generally have so much of Madness, Violence, and Contradiction in their Conduct, as happens to be in the Private Temper of their Leaders. And are seldom any longer true to the Principles and Reasons of their Party, than those at the Head of them, prove to be moderate, equitable and undesigning Men.

A S Absolute Monarchy, in the Hands of a Wise and Virtuous Prince, may make a Nation for his Time, more Happy than any Legal Government; so the Cause of Liberty, when committed to the Hands of Violence, Avarice and Reverge, may more inslave a People, and destroy a Nation, than the heaviest Strokes of Monarchical Power. The True Briton is therefore, to look to the Preservation of the Peinciples of his Party, and not to the Men who make a Bluster in it; for it will often happen, that he must lose his Party, if he will follow those whom Fortune has placed at the Head of it. An Evil Minister may have so asserted, that he can be no longer safe, than whilst he is

### Nº 6. The TRUE BRITON. 47

in Power: He may have more to fear, than an Evil Monarch, and to be forced upon more desperate Methods to secure himself from an abused, injured People.

THE True Briton is therefore to stick to the Reasons and Principles of his Party. He is to follow the Ob Patrons of his Cause; to adhere to Equity, Liberty, and Moderation; and to reckon none to be of his Party, who, on any Pretence whatsoever, swerve from them. The Good of Party, is, In supporting Principles; The Evil of Party, In following Persons.

WHEN I give this Advice, I can only be fupposed to speak to the Tories; for the Whigs have been so Happy in their Governors, that they cannot follow them too blindly. Their Conduct, at least since His Majesty's Accession to the Throne, has been but One continued Ast of Uniformity; One perpetual Endeawour to strengthen and sinish the Glorious Fabrick of Liberty.

IN a Late Reign, Power was some Time in Other Hands; Liberty, for a while hung down its Head; Property grew precarious, and Magna Charta as little valued as the Original Contract; Corruption increased; Bribery was established; Religion declined; and the Church was ashamed to see herself committed to the Care of an Illiterate, Weak, Worldly, Prostitute Clergy.

THOSE Days brought forth the Occasional and Schism Bills; which are such violent Attempts upon the Liberty of the Subject, as at once made the Kingdom but a Den of Slaves. The Peace with France

### 48 The TRUE BRITON. No.

had proved Great-Britain's Funeral, had not His Majesty's Accession to the Throne, committed the Administration to the True Patrons of Liberty. These little Intervals of Tory Persecution and Slavery, have always created more Work for the better Party.

BUT their Happy Continuance in Power See the Late Reign, and Freedom from any Fear of ever losing it, has made them able to compleat every Part of the Scheme of Liberty, and carry some Blessings of the Revolution higher than even the most Sanguine amongst us could expect.

THE Tories, when in Power, shewed themselves mere Bunglers: They knew nothing of Money Matters; Their Exchequer was low; They feared Expences; State Officers were in Arear of their Salaries; and the Lord Treasurer came out of his Office, as Poor as he entered upon it. But now! Money is fo Plentiful; the Exchequer is so Rich; that the Government has lately remitted above Seven Millions of Money to a Single Company. It is Happy for the Gentlemen in the Administration, that such a Sum of Money, so generously given, has also so much Justice to support the Gift. Or otherwise, fince, the Breach of Trust is now made liable to be punished by Forfeiture of Estate, as appears by the South-Sea Directors Bill; the Nation, to whom that Money was due, might, some time or other, inquire after it. But the great Justice, the Extraordinary Charity, and the Wife Ends of giving the Nation's Money to the South-Sea Company, are so plain and obvious an Instance of National Care, that those who are chiefly intitled to the Merit of it, may safely repose themselves upon the Nation's Favour. WHEN

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# Nº 6. The TRUE BRITON. 49

WHEN Her Late Majesty was so Unhappy as to employ the Tories, the Church of England began to make broad her Philastery, and to talk of Independency of the State; and Bishops were chosen to support such Claims. His Majesty's Happy Reign has filled that Reverend Bench with such Primitive, Learned and Apostolical Men, as even gain the Esteem and Favour of all the Sworn Enemies to Episcopacy.

THE Bishop of Rochester (as mere a Slave to Church Principles as Arch-Bishop Laud was) has had the Voices of Nineteen out of Twenty Bishops to Banish him the Kingdom. And to their Eternal Honour be it said, That neither the Sacredness of the Episcopal Character; nor the Extraordinariness of the Case; nor the Unusual Method of the Proceeding; nor their Concern for a Brother; nor their Affection for the Church; nor the Example of above Forty Temporal Lords, could abate their Christian Zeal for the Banishment of so Great and Eminent a Brother. The History of JOSEPH is a very entertaining Story.

IT is endless to enumerate the various Circumstances of our present Happiness. The Number of Good Laws which have been lately made, as they must mightily Endear the Present Ministers to all Lovers of Liberty, so they restect the highest Reproach upon those Days, when Power was in other Hands.

YOU have made just Observations upon several Laws. I wonder how the South-Sea Directors Bill, by which they forseit their Estates, escap'd your Observation. It is a Statute of as much Importance as

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that against Plunket, and as worthy the Thoughts of the True Briton.

The feveral Bills against the Bishop of Rochester, Mr. Kelly, and Plunker, cannot be said to be form'd upon the Directors Bill, because the Bishop, Mr. Kelly, and Plunket, were allow'd to speak for Themselves, and by Council; But the Directors were neither allow'd to speak for Themselves, nor by their Council. These Gentlemen had also their Crimes specify'd; so that by Defences and Speeches, they have been able to let the World see the Nature of their Guilt, and the Strength of the Evidence against them. But the Directors had no Specification of their Crimes; nor was their Guilt six'd to any Particulars; so that the World is left to judge of their Guilt only by the Nature of their Punishment.

NOW, althor these Moderate, Gentle, Merciful Acts, cannot be said to be copy'd from the Director Bill, because the Directors Bill has several severe Circumstances which these Bills have not; yet if, in any future Time, an Ill Ministry should procure a corrupt Parliament, to make People to forseit their Estates for General Charges, without Trying them, without Hearing them; might not such Unmerciful Proceedings plead some Colour of Justice from the Bill against the late Directors?

GO on, SIR, to instruct and Reform a Corrupt Age; and teach Britons to be Good Men and True.

Your Sincere Admirer, and Unavorthy Correspondent,

A. B.

## Nº 7. The TRUEBRITON. 51

P. S. IF you don't approve of the Publication of this Letter in your Briton, be pleased to advertise in your next.

I Have fome farther Thoughts to communicate, which, I promise my felf, will be found agreeable to the Honest Intention of your Paper.

MY Worthy Friend seems unacquainted with the Methods that were used to pass the Bills against the Bishop of Rochester and Mr. Kelly; The Zeal which appears in most Parts of his Letter, would make it necessary for me, in Gratitude, to lay the Whole of the Evidence for and against the Bishop of Rochester before him, were that at present Convenient, as well for his Satisfaction, as for the Justification of the Nineteen Bishops, who, I presume, would neither be afraid or ashamed to see that publish'd: Such an Opinion I entertain of their Steadiness and Firm Adherence to what they profess!

THE Letter from Lincolns-Inn, dated June the 17th, came fafe to Hand; and the Author returns is Thanks for the kind Advice given him in it: But affures his Friend, That he don't fear the Power of the Persons he mentions, any more than he doubts their Malice.

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# TRUE BRITON

#### NUMB. VII.

Turno Tempus erit, magno cum optaverit emtum Intactum Pallanta, & cum spolia ista, diemque Oderit. —— VIRG

MONDAY, JUNE 24. 1723.



DID in my last but one, make some few Observations on the Evidence which was offer'd to support the inflicting Pains and Penalties on John Plunket; and since I have allow'd, that

in Extraordinary Cases the Interposition of Parliament may be necessary to do Justice to the Kingdom, my Readers will permit me to mention some few Instances where such a Method of proceeding by Bill, is the

#### Nº 7. The TRUE BRITON. only Remedy an Injured Nation can have against its most Dangerous and Inveterate Enemies.

IF ever we should be so unfortunate as to see a Prince on the Throne, whose Easy and Unastive Temper might induce Him to withdraw from Publick Bufiness, and repose an implicite Faith on His Ministers, and permit every Man in his Court to be a Tyrant but Himfelf, it would be the Duty of the Legislature to destroy Offenders who should abuse that Trust, and maintain themselves in the Injoyment of Favour by fuch wicked Measures as would intitle them to Punishment.

THIS was the Situation of Rome under Tiberius. who forfook the Seat of Empire, and retired to the fland of Caprea, whilst he was Master of the Unierse, and left the Management of Publick Affairs in he Hands of Cruel and Avaritious Men.

THIS Country has formerly fuffer'd by the follies of weak Princes, and though the Providence f God has for some Time freed us from all Missormes of that Nature, by placing His present Majesty n the Throne, and securing the Protestant Succeson; yet it affords great Comfort to every True Priton, when he confiders, That, if ever we should roan under the Yoke of Despotick Ministers impos'd pon us by an Indolent King, fuch corrupt Wretches hay meet with their just Doom, however they might ndeavour to Skreen themselves under the Appearnces of Law.

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IF ever we should see Men in High Stations, hose only Care should be to inrich themselves, and cn-

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# 54 The TRUE BRITON. No

ennoble their Families, and, in order to effect both these desirable Ends, should sacrifice the Constitution of England to their Avarice and Ambition it would be but common Justice to strip them of their ill-got Wealth, and prevent their injoying the Sweets of what they shall have heaped together by Plunder and Rapine. This Rule was followed by those who punished the Directors of the South Sea Company, for their Causing the Ruin of so many Great and Honest Families, who were the unhappy Sufferers by their Villainous Transactions.

IT is a Maxim in the Law of England, That the King can do no Wrong; but those who surround the Throne are answerable for the Mischiess which slow from it; so that the Subjects must attribute all the destructive Measures which are pursued by a Court to the Instuence of those Men who shall, at such Time bear the greatest Sway in the Publick Councils.

IF the King of these Nations should ever be governed absolutely by the Directions of One Man, and make the Pleasure of such a Minister the Rule of his Government, it will be the Duty of a Parliament to free Him from Servitude, and of the Prince to submit his Favourite to the Publick Censure.

IF, upon Enquiry, it should be found, That such a Person, thus made Great by the Royal Favour, had counselled and advised the appointing Sheriffs to return Members to Parliament, who were not legally chose; to impannel proper Juries whenever he should incline to Cruelry; and if he should direct the Issuing out of Pub

### Nº 7. The TRUE BRITON.

Publick Money to bribe and corrupt Cities and Boroughs, in order to fill the House of Commons with his Creatures; should such a Man escape the Punishment due to his Crimes?

IF it should be found, That he had distributed Pensions and Places to Members of Parliament, in Order to induce them to support his Administration, by giving the Colour of Law to such Steps as destroyed the Law itself; Should he, who thus would prostitute the Dignity and Honour of the Crown, be suffered to reap the Benefits of his Treachery?

IF it should be found, That he had inrich'd himfelf, by dealing with publick Companies in the City, and taking great Sums of Money from them to give his Assistance to their Funds, and thus be guilty of Receiving, as well as Distributing of Bribes, will not this be thought Corruption of the blackest Dye?

IF it should be found, That such a Minister had endeavour'd by Menaces and Hopes, to procure Evidence to swear falsly against Honest and Innocent Men; Will not this be esteem'd a Crime that calls for the highest Vengeance?

IF it should be found, That he had ingag'd us in Wars wherein we were unconcern'd, out of Personal and Private Views, and by such New Unnecessary Expences, render'd the Burthen of the Publick Debt heavy and grievous, would he not deserve to be given up to the Justice of an Injured Nation?

## 56 The TRUE BRITON. Nº 7

THIS will not be our Case: but if ever it should, in future Times, be the unfortunate Situation of this Kingdom, there would not be wanting Bald and Honest Men to strike at such a Minister, even in the Highest Lustre of Power, and either over-turn this Common Enemy, or perish in the Attempt of it; and it is our Happiness to know, that the Greatest Subject in England must submit to the Sentence of the Law.

THE Proof necessary to convince Mankind of the Guilt of such a Minister, is, The Misery which the People who live under him endure from the Instrumence of his Councils: But if there should be found Living Witnesses to corroborate any Circumstance of his Male-Administration, they would be still stronger Supports to the Accusations against him; and there scarce would be wanting Men who would turn Informers, when they saw him removed from his Employment; and this they would be prevailed on to do, out of the same corrupt Views that had made them Creatures to him during his Prosperity.

WE have had one late Instance of the Spirit of the Commons, when the Chancellor of the Exchequer was obliged to forfeit his unjust Gains, and render'd incapable of a Seat in either House of Parliament.

NO Prince on the Throne, who consults His own Interest, or the Good of his People, which ought to be Inseparable, would protect or defend such a Minister, when once his Guilt was detected; but would be as willing and desirous to yield him to the Will of the Law, as he had been ready and eager to promote him.

### Nº 7. The TRUE BRITON: 57

If he judg'd right, he would see, That no one was so much injured by such a Man's Behaviour, as the King, whose Government he had made Odious to advance his Private Interest, and whom he had robb'd of the Affections of his People. It was the Want of this Way of Thinking, that ruin'd the late King James, and occasion'd the Missortunes of that Unhappy Prince.

WHEN the People plainly perceiv'd their Laws infring'd, and the most facred Bulwarks of Liberty openly attack'd by the 'assuming of a Dispensing Power, they justly thought themselves discharg'd from their Oaths of Allegiance, and acted as it became a Free People, determined to maintain their Rights and Privileges.

THEY knew the Oaths they had taken to King James, were in Return for the Promise he had made to his Subjects at his Coronation; and when his Majesty had acted contrary to what he had Sworn, they thought all their Obligations Null and Void.

THEY set aside Hereditary Right with great Justice, and settled the Crown on His Present Majesty, who is also bound to govern according to the Laws of the Kingdom; and who has himself declared from the Throne, That They shall be the Rules and Measures of His Government.

FRANCE has follow'd our Example in this last Instance, and now there remain but few Kingdoms where the Doctrine of Hereditary Right prevails.

BUT

BUT to return: If the Torrent of the Timeshould ever profane the Sacred Power of punishing by Bill, vested in Parliament for the Protection of the Subject against Wicked and Corrupt Ministers, no Man would be Safe or Secure; and the most Honest Men in the Kingdom might esteem their Lives and Liberties precarious.

THE last Instance where this Method was found necessary, was in the Case of the Depriv'd Bishop of Rochester, who embark'd on Tuesday last, to Execute that Part of his Sentence, which condemns him to perpetual Banishment; and which obliges him, in his Advanced Age, and Feeble Situation of Health, to Change his Country and Climate, and Every thing but his Religion.

I COULD wish to have that Prelate's Style, in order to paint a True Character of so Great and Learned a Man. But the Qualifications that adorn him, are so conspicuous, that no Flowers of Rhetorick are required to illustrate them.

THE First Instance which distinguished him and intitled him to the Favours of the Court, and Esteem of Mankind, was, The Early Proof he gave of his Just Pretensions to Holy Orders, by the excellent Book which he published in Defence of the Reformation. And he could say, the First of June last, He was the only Bishop of the Church of England, who had wrote in Desence of Martin Luther, the Great Patron of the Protestant Interest. This Beha-

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#### Nº 7. The TRUE BRITON: 19 viour was justly valued in former Reigns; and, it is prefumed, cannot be judged a Crime in this.

and builded to end with all nobands IN the Reign of Queen Anne, he was advanced to the Deanary of Christ-Church, and afterwards created Dean of Westminster, and Elected Bishop of Rochefter; His Behaviour, in every Station of his Life, has shewn him to be a Person of the Greatest Wit, built upon the Foundation of Good Sense, and directed by the strictest Rules of Religion and Morality.

HE was always for maintaining the Dignity and Privileges of the several Offices he bore in the Church; and this Just Way of Behaviour, inforced by that Steadiness which was natural to him, created him many Enemies among the Canons of Christ-Church, and Prebends of Westminster, who naturally must, by their own Interest, be obliged to oppose and Dean who should maintain the undoubted Rights which he ought - But it is hoped, all those Feuds will to enjoy. be at an End in this last mentioned Chapter, by the Prudent and Just and Choice His Majesty has made of Dr. Bradford to succeed him.

HIS Piery towards his Children, and his Sincerity to his Friends, made him juftly Beloved and Respected by Both. No other Crime can be laid to his Charge, but that for which he now fuffers, which over ballances all his Virtues.

THE Malice of his Enemies infinuated, That he would change his Religion when he came into Foreign Countries, and be deluded into the Errors of the Church of Rome: But he declared in his Defence be-

### 60 The TRUEBRITON. No

tore the House of Lords, with the strongest Asseverations, That he would due at a Stake, rather than abandon the Principles of the Establish'd Church of England.

THE Chearfulness with which he indured his Fate, shewed him to be Superior to all the Calamities of Life; and would induce every Man to believe him Innocent, had not so Great, so Independent, and so Uncorrupt a Majority in both Houses of Parliament declared him Guilty.

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# TRUE BRITON.

#### NUMBI WILL

Quo ruitis vel que dementia, dixi, Concitat, O Socii!

OVID.

FRIDAY, JUNE 28. 1723.



HE Subjects of this Kingdom not only enjoy the Comforts of a Mild and Free Government, but have the great Advantage over their Neighbours, of following the True Principles of the Chri-

stian Religion in its Primitive and Natural Purity.

WHEN the great Work of the Reformation was accomplished in England, the Wisdom of those Learned and Great Men who conducted that Glorious Change, and shook off the intolerable Yoke of the See of Rome, prevented our falling into the Missortines which too often attend such great Alterations; when, generally, Persons who destroy Tyranny, fall into the other Extremes of Anarchy and Confusion.

WE

### The TRUEBRITON, NO

WE still preserve in our Church that Decency Decorum which become us as Christians, in our D vine Worship: And this is guarded by the Order o Episcopacy, which was instituted by Christ Himsel and continued down to us by his Holy Apoliles.

THE Great Guardian of our Church, and, I may fay, The Ornament of our Kingdom, is the Body of the Clergy; and peculiar Care ought to be taken, that no Persons be admitted to Holy Orders, whose Principles do not incline them, nor Learning enable them, to perform the Duties incumbent upon that Sacred Function.

WHEN Men of vile and heretical Notions are allow'd to wear that Sacred Garment, they may be justly faid to be Wolves in Sheeps Cloathing; And from the Pulpit frequently propagate fuch dangerous Tenets, as raise Confusion in the Minds, and Distraction in the Consciences of their Hearers.

THE Two Universities of this Kingdom are the Fountains from which all Erudition flows; and the utmost Efforts are used by them to inculcate proper and just Principles in the Minds of the Youth whose Education falls to their Share.

IT is a Comfort and a Satisfaction to every Honest Man, that no Foreign University is equal to One of our Colleges; And the whole World admires the Largeness and Number of our Foundations. The Intent of those Pious Men, who have left those Illustrious Monuments to transmit their Names with Honour to Posterity, has been fully answered by the Learn-M. W.

Nº 8. The TRUEBRITON. 63
ing and Integrity which at present abound amongst
them.

EVERY Person who has contributed to this Great and necessary Institution, has had the Benefit of being transmitted to suture Ages, by the many and various Books of Science and Divinity, which have been published by those who tasted the Sweets of his Benefaction.

WHEN Men have shewn by their knowledge and Behaviour, That they are proper and sit Persons to preach the Gospel of Christ, then it is the Duty of every Bishop to repose that great Trust in them; And their subsequent Way of Preaching and Living must recommend them, according to their several Stations and Abilities, to suture Preferment.

WHEN a Divine has merited the Highest Station of the Church, he ought to receive it whenever there is an Opportunity of bestowing it; and it is incumbent upon him to follow the Dictates laid down in Holy Writ, for Bishops to pursue.

Saint Paul in the Third Chapter of his First Epistle to Timothy, recommends it to them, To be blameless; The Husband of one Wife; Vigilant; Sober; of Good Behaviour; Given to Hospitality; and apt to Teach. This last Command is very necessary to be remarked: For, if ever we should see the Time when any of that Holy Character look on a Bishoprick as a Sine Cure, and think they have nothing to do to answer the Intention of their Patrons, but to Vote as ordered in a House of Parliament, Then may our Church justly be said to be in Danger.

## 64 The TRUEBRITION. Nº 8

A NOTHER Order of the Apostles to them, is, That they should not be given to filthy Lucre. This is unnecessary at this Time to be considered, when it is evident, at present, that the Prospect of Translation to more Wealthy Revenues, does not at all sway the Minds or corrupt the Principles of any Member of our present Bench, whose Zeal for this happy Establishment, will always induce them to persevere in one continued Way of Acting.

HE is also not to be a Nevice: lest, being listed we with Pride, be falls into the Condemnation of the Devil. This would be very proper to be taken Notice of, had we any Bishop who seemed exalted at sudden Advancement: But there is none amongst them who does not every Day give fresh Instances of their great Humility.

MOREOVER, says Saint Paul, He must have a good Report of them which are without, lest he fall into the Reproach and Snare of the Devil: And it is to the Eternal Honour of our Government, That no Person has lately been promoted to a See, whose Character has not been confirmed by the universal Voice of the People.

BUT if ever we should see the Time when these Fathers of our Church should think their Private Interest ought to be their Principal View; and that all other Considerations should be subservient to that, we must expect, That in all Stations of Life, they would forsake the Commandments of our Saviour and his Apostles, and bow the Knee to Baal.

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IF they were commanded, as Judges in Private Cases, they would blindly obey, or even convict an the following Letter.

#### tence is printed in a different Cooradler, food be juagant of To the TRUB BRINTON

SIR.

Fune the 24th.

Lot of a Lab, p. 23.

DOUBT not but you will think it the Duty of a True Briton, to take Notice of any poisonous Writings that are vended, and to prevent the Influences of them. In Confidence, therefore, of the Importance of the Subject I treat of, I shall make no farther Apology for interrupting You in the Noble Defign you feem to be engaged in golnoo ad live again

I suppose you have seen a Latin Epistle from Dr. FRIEND to Dr. MEAD, about forme particular Sorts of the Small-Pox ! This is, indeed, the feem ingly Innocent Defign of it; but apon Brister View it will appear to be the most barefae'd, impudent At rack upon our Excellent Conflictution (and, perhaps upon all Government in general) that ever had the Author's Name prefix'd to it. What aggravate the Doctor's Crime, is, That this Pamphter is dated from the Tower, where he was confined upon Sufficion of High-Treason, and to prevent his Injuring the Government : And yet I shall prove this Work to be, if not a Legal, at least a Corrobonating Evidence of the blackest of Treasons. ... bis Medicided tad release. but

I SHALL begin with an incontestable Proof of a Covert Design in the Epistle; which is, That every Word in it, that I lay any Stress upon, is printed in a stalian Character: And it has always been a standing Maxim among Authors, That whatever Word or Seatence is printed in a different Character, shall be judged to contain something Extraordinary, Presace to the Tale of a Tub, p. 33.

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THIS I build upon; and, without forcing the Construction in the least, shall proceed to shew the rancorous Enmity of the Doctor to all Government or all but Absolute Monarchy. Upon second Thoughts, indeed, I am inclined to think him a Favourer of This, because he has not express d a Dislike of it in his Pamphlet; and because in this View, his Writings will be consonant to the supposed Crimes he was lately confined for.

- ALL the Charge against him, will eafily be made good, if you will allow me, that by Variola he mean Government; for then it follows, very naturally, that by Discretum genus Variolarum, is meant a Government in which different Branches of Power are difcernable, or a Free State. By Interflinctum genus, is fignified a Limited Monarchy; namely, our own Government distinguished into the several Parts of King, Lords and Commons; and by Confluens genus, a Republick, in which every Man comes in for a Share of Power. This Construction is so natural and obvious, that every Man must immediately give into it, and wonder that he himself did not find it out. I am confident, that if we could discover the True Person SHALL the

#### Nº 8. The TRUE BRITON: 67

the Letter was defigned for, upon a diligent Search we might find a Cypher upon him agreeable to This Interpretation: I fay, the True Person, because Richardus Mead is certainly here a fictitious Name. If I would indulge my felf in the Liberty of Conjectures, I should have great Hopes of tracing out the True Names; but in a Paper of this Nature, I refolve to confine my felf to first Demonstration, By Helvetius, p. 1. He means Hobbes; this is very plain by the same Letters beginning and ending both the Names; Qui doctrina & experientha medica instructifsimus diversa variolarum genera persecutus est; that is, A Learned Man and a great Politician, who has inveighed against the several kinds of Government. Before I go farther, I must observe, That He bestows this Character as an Encomium upon Hobbes; and that He expresses the greatest Blessing of Mankind, by the Name of the most loathfome Difense : These are Crimes that have no Names nor Punishments annex'd to them as yet; but I think it will become the Wifdom of the P-t to equip them.

of the Epiftle, and by translating them according to the foregoing Key, shall expose the Venom of them.

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P. 3. He fays, Helvetius intra discretum genus various larum malignitation tas subesse advertit, sebremque as sidue inharescere promaligni humoristemperie diversam; That is, Hobbes takes Notice, That there are Marks of Disaffection in a Free State; and that there are always seeds of Rebellion in it; in Proportion to the Degree of Disaffection: Then our Author adds, Es bujusmost F 2

## 8 THETRUE BRITTON. NO.

ne said of had fair in the state of the Series of the late of the late of the Series of the Series, because

and affirms, Interstincte, with this, he rises in his Affertions and affirms, Interstincte, utcurque noticable description eareant, Salutemoine distrince white had not adducting thought in has not the before many timed Symptoms, I deads the Reople linto when annual Danger- year it is it is the means of the salute of the sa

the lame Letters beginning and ending of A G A I N. R. 4. In Judge of Soling of Soling of the pullularum varietas els. Es Febris non minus ac in configuration intenditur. So periculum some minus a Limited Monarchy there is a Variety of Ernanies and a Rebellion is equally functional than the constant of Republick.

WELE, Sirl what think your which is more aftenishing, his Boldness in advancing these traiters Scandals, or Folly, in thinking to clear with In punity?

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R. 6. He proposes an Example of what he before afferted; and accordingly, in the Malicaus his Heart pitches upon the Person and Reign of King Charles in First, as sit for his Purpose. That he is meant through a comprehend the Meaning of Association to any one that can comprehend the Meaning of Association Fables; But the Latter End is so very flagrant, that I must true feribe it. P. 9. Addibited sum Vesicantia; Chystese injecti: affixa Cacurtitulæ: sanguis demum en Jugulari vena detractus; That is, Petitions, Remonstrated and Resistance were applied; and last of all, be well les Blood in the Jugulars Vein: Which can mean nothing

### NOS. THOTHUB BRITON. O

Approbation of it in these plain Terms, Siquident in hoc ancipiti casu, wene aperiende preciditus omnis de liberatio; neque enim in pustulis, quod retrocedat, ma, terie quicquam: When the State is in this uncertain Condition, we must not bestate in the teast about speading Blood; for tohen an Insurrection is made, there is no noing back. And then he concludes his instance with this abominable Sentence; Is expeditifiant. Revellendia Modus; This is the speediest Cure: Et ceteris, etiam iis que in Pedibus sunt, precellet Jugularium sectio, ubi Cerebrum afficitur. Which is a Sentence I will not presume to translate.

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IF I would undertake to shew the Author's whole Scheme, I should be obliged to translate the whole Pamphlet; and shall, therefore, content my self with the Proofs already given, only adding a Passage, which seems to commin a scandalous Restection upon a Great Man I need not mention to you. P. 12. talking about the Pulse, or Temper of the State, he says, Quem quitare lites et tangendo informarint, non intelligunt: Some that are grown Old to some dering it, known nothing of it.

AFTER all this, the Boctor may very well fay to the Person he writes to P. 17. Vereor ne non tam Epistolam quam Libellum ad te mitte credas: I begin to fear you will think I have sent you not an Epistle but a Libel; But I am surprized at his Assurance in the Postscript, where he says, He wrote this Pamphlet with the Leave of the Governor, and in the Presence of the Warder. It is, indeed, very probable the Warder knew nothing of the Matter. But the Governor

F 3

per would certai aly have discovered the Intent of it, if he had read it.

I SHALL now conclude, with affuring you, that I have wrote this, not out of any Personal Prejudice to the Doctor; but for Love of my Country, and the Government we are so Happy under; and to shew, That I have some Portion of the Spirit of Sagacity that is of late gone out among us.

I fell would undertake to flew rite Authors whole

Thould be obliged to transfere the whole

Which is a Seaso

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Your most Obediept Humble Servan,

Thronier; and that, according content to be the proof of the property of the



I H'A V E mentioned formerly, the many Benefits which the City of Lot Belleviers from the Privilege of channe their own Sheriffs and every Englishmen

# TRUE BRITON.

#### NUMB. IX.

LaBall.

his Life and Fortune may be determined by the Junies

Nescia mens bominum fati sortisque future,

Et servare modum rebus sublata secundis. VIRG.

#### MONDAY, JULY 1. 1.1723. I on

Lovernment, recommend a luft and

don and Middle fees, being at present the Subject of all Conversation, I think it will not be improper to trouble my Readers with some few Observations on a Matter of such high Importance to the whole Kingdom.

A S the Intent of this Day's Paper is only to justify the Reputation of feveral Gentlemen, and the Character of all the Livery-Men, who appeared for Sir F 4 John 73 The TRUE BRITON. No

John Williams and Mr. Lockwood, which are pere'd in a Fatie and Scandalous Manger by form Printed Advertishments and Libels. I have and printed, fisch an Intension will not be construct to be sentenced to b

I H A V E mentioned formerly, the many Benefits which the City of London receives from the Privilege of chusing their own Sheriffs; and every Englishman is concerned in the Manner in which they exercise that great Trust reposed in them by our Constitution, since his Life and Fortune may be determined by the Juries which shall be impanelled by the Officers thus Elected.

SIR William Thompson, the present Reporder, who has lately men with a Mark of his Majesty's Favour, by receiving the Grant of a Pension of Twelve Hundred Pounds per Annum, during the King's Life, and his own, did, with a great deal of Zeal for our Establishment, and Duty to the present Government, recommend a Just and Impartial Choice to his Fellow Citizens at this Juncture, as the only Method to presence their Liberties and the Publick Welfare.

I SHOULD only defire to take Notice of fome Expressions in this Speech, which is Printed in the Daily-Post of Thursday, June the 26th.

think it will not be imp

IN the Third Paragraph of this Discourse, he is recounting the many Bleffings we injoy under the present happy Establishment, in these Words.

AS you are so happy to enjoy, winder the Pracestion of the prosent Government, all your Religious and Civil Rights, multiout the least Invasion on Violence. As you have the good Fortune to live under a Constitution where the Publick Fustion is administred openly and impurially according to the known Laws of the Land, [Here he might have added, Except when the Wistom of the Legislature shall inverpose to supply the Defect of Legal Evidence Tou cannot but approve of such Measures as tend to the Continuance of these Biessings.

AMONG others, you cannot but defire, that furies, who have, in some Degree, the Disposal of your Lives, your Liberties, and your Properties, should be impanelled fairly and indifferently, and free from Byass and Prejudice.

WHOEVER, therefore, would follow this Good and Just Advice, must consider, whether Six John Williams and Mr. Lockwood, or the other Two Candidates, are the most likely to act an unbyassed and unprejudiced Part; and which of the Four Gentlemen will impanel Juries fairly and indifferently.

THE Two Persons I have mentioned, are Eminent Turkey-Merchants, and great Proprietors in the Publick Funds. Is in probable, that any Man who has such great Sums ingaged in Government Seturities, should let them remain there, were they not determined to support that Government they intrusted with the greatest Part of their Properties? Can it be ima-

#### THE TRUEBRITION.

imagined, that if Men could be so deluded, as to wish the Destruction of the present Constitution, they would so largly contribute their Estates for the Support of it? But this Calumny proceeds from the Old Method, that has been the Constant Maxim of One Party, to brand every Subject with Jacchitism, who opposes their Measures in the least Instance?

IN order to afperfe and vilify the Character of Mr. Lockwood, they have, in a Printed Advertisement recommended him jointly with Alderman Barbe, whom they would infinuate to be an Agent of the Pretender's. For my Part, I am not yet convinced this last Accusation is true; for though the Report of the Secret Committee of the House of Commons, does, indeed, charge the Alderman with having ne mitted great Sums of Money Abroad for the Service of the Pretender, yet the Wisdom of the Gentlemen who framed that Report, is not infallible. There is one remarkable inftance in which they were miltaken. for the celebrated Letter to Dubois, which was feized among the late Bishop of Rochester's Papers, was offcenied by them as a Letter received by the Bifhop; but afterwards, by a Similitude of Seals, and the Resemblance of Two E's, conjectured to be wrote by him.

THE Intention of those People who restect thus on Mr. Lockwood, must be also, to cast the most odious and black Abuse on the Majority of the Citizens of London, who elected him their Representative in Parliament; and who thought proper to intrust him with the great Power of taking Care of their Interest

#### Nº 9. The TRUE BRITON.

Threats and Promites, who their utmost radmeMe chuse tieth Persons as they approve of, to be Manual

Gentleman has been constantly calculated to support our Establishment in Church and State: If, in another Place, he has opposed every Step taken to innovate or alter it: If he has joined in every Vote for the Desence of the Laws of this Kingdom, and has refused to find those Guilty against whom he esteemed no clear Proofs of Guilt were produced: Or it, in any former Choice in this City, he has espoused the Interests of Men publickly known to be zealous Promoters of our Trade and Welfare, in Desence of the Rights and Privileges of the City: I say, If these Things can be proved, then this Gentleman is a proper Person to be intrusted at this Juncture.

If the other Two Persons, Sir Richard Hopkins and Mr. Feast, have, upon this Occasion, spared neither Pains nor Expence to obtain an Office, which, if justly executed, is attended with great Charge and Trouble, will it not be proper to inquire, what Views they may have in the strong Solicitations they have made? Or, will it be taken for granted, That Mr. Feast's Constant Adherence to the Principles be now professes, and the remarkable Zeal he has always shewn for the Support of the present Government, have singly prevailed upon him to employ his Money and his Trouble to obtain the Sherisfalty for the ensuing Year?

THE Privileges of the City are on this Occasion effentially concerned: For, if the Three Great Companies

## 76 THOTHUE BRITON. Nº16

Threats and Promises, use their utmost Essents of chuse such Extents of the Gity of London, the great Power which the Extent of their Trade, and the Number of Persons concerned under them, must give them, may enable them to be as absolute Masters of the Liberties of London, as they are of their own Affairs; and must impower them to trample effectually on the Freedom of Elections.

IF every Person whose Substance depends on the Favour of those Companies, must be drove to the cruel Necessity of starving themselves and Families, or Voting against their Consciences and Inclinations. This must be esteemed an open Violation of the Rights of the Livery Men, and consequently, dangerous and destructive to the Publick Welfare, and those Persons who shall with Courage oppose such Violence and Corruption, ought to be esteemed Friends to the People, and Desenders of their undoubted Privileges.

THE false Infinuation made by some amongst us. That Sir John Williams and Mr. Lockwood were recommended as proper Persons to save and skreen Traytors from the Hands of Justice, could come from nothing but the Malice of those who would wish to see the Power of returning Juries report in the Hands of Men who should employ it to destroy the Innocent, and to answer the Purposes of the Guilty.

GENTLEMEN of fugh Credit fuch Riches, and fuch Characters, would from to ach a Part which the

## Nº % THE TRUBE BRUTO N.

the whole World would condemn and detect. Neither ean those whom they are supposed to selve, affect them any Temperation to swerve them from that Allegiance to His Majesty King GEORGE, to which they are tyed by Dury as Subjects, and Interest as Merchant And if ever Persons can be guilty of abusing the Great Power vested in them by their Fellow Citizens, in must be, when they are prometing the Schemes of Men who are enabled to gratify their Avarice or Anti-

FOR Argumene like, we will suppose, that even this falle Suggestionswere true ; and that the Sheriffe of London fibuld be endowed with fuch vile and wicked Principles bake have fill one Comfort left no That there is as Method of proceeding by Bill oftan blish'd the tast Sessions of Parliament, which will render their Attempts Fruitles and Vain ; fince the Legislature would, in Such Case, undoubtedly interpose to do Justice to an injured Nation But if on the other Hand, those intrusted with the Execution of that Office, should, by the Menaces of Men as wicked and corrupt as themselves, procure Verdicts to be given against the Honest and Guililes Subjects of this Kingdom; Where could the Unfortunate Wretches they injured, flee for Redress, when the Sentences pronounced against them, would be con strued to be Just, because they were built on the Forms of Law? shimall mist

THUS, on the one Hand, no Man can escape Punishment, who deserves it; and on the Other, those may be destroy'd who are free from all Crimes, and against whom no Proof is given.

### 78 THE TRUB BRITON: Nº 9

e whole World would conform and detect. Neither

WE have had one late Instance which ought to free the Tories from any Imputation on this Account for the Jury by which Mr. Christopher Layer was condemned, was chiefly composed of Gentlemen in that Interest; and yet, such was their Regard for Truth and their Adherence to His Majesty King GEORGE, and the Succession of his Family, that they found him Guilty, with the greatest Zeal and Chearful ness.

THE Manner in which this Election was conducted by the prefent Sheriffs, will appear to have been Impartial and Just, notwithstanding the Resections cast on them to the contrary: And, perhaps, their only Crime is, That they have behaved themselves with that Justice and Steadiness as became them as Magistrates; and as soon as the Scrutiny is over which I presume will be the Consequence of their Declaration on Tuesday, their Behaviour will appear to the Satisfaction of all Honest Men.

AS I was concluding this Paper, I receiv'd the following Letter.

SIR,

Desire you will insert these Queries in your next Paper, if you have Room for them, which will oblige,

Your Humble Servant,

of this Lingdom: Where could the

A. B.

Query I. WHETHER the Clerks of the PostOffice intermedling in the Elections of this City, and
former

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No 9. The IRUE BREETON. 79 forming a Mob to obstruct the Livery Men as the were coming to Poll, is not an open Violation of the Freedom of Election?

H. WHETHER Men of the First Quality sending to threaten their Tenants and Tradesinen, if they would not Vote for Sir Richard Hopkins and Mr. Feast, be not pretending to Govern the City of London in an Arbitrary Manner?

III. WHETHER the bringing down a Number of Informing Constables to Abuse, and Knock down, and Commit the Friends of Sir John Williams and Mt. Lockwood, is keeping the Peace, or preserving the Quiet of the City?

IV. WHETHER any Persons have a Right of Voting for Sheriffs of London, but the Livery men of London? And whether some Hundreds of Persons were not polled for Hopkins and Feast, who never were called on the Livery, nor were ever so much as made Free of any Company?

V. WHETHER a certain Duke's Appearing at the Feathers in Cheapside, and Dining there with some of his Friends, can be construed to Influence the City against the Freedom of Elections, or to encourage them to preserve it?





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## TRUE BRITON

Informing Confix 195, 80 Mbys, Mad Knock down,

Pergama tum Vici tum vinci posse Coegio OVID

#### FR' DAY, JULY 5. 1723.



T is the Dury of a KING, who Himself cannot be supposed to enter into the Minute Parts of Government, to Vest the Execution of Power in the Hands of Honest and Discreet Men.

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These Ministers are to be accountable to Him for all their Astions; and He is to review them with an Impartial Eye, in order to secure His Subjects from Violence and Oppression-

THE Great Maxim in Politicks which Governors should pursue, is, "Never to enter into Measures to answer particular Occasions, without considering with the utmost Caution, how far that Step which their Necessities may, at one Juncture, flatter them

## None. The TRUE BRITON:

" into, can proje foral and dangerous in its Con-

Charges without obliging what great a sonaupal ...

WERE this Maxim followed as it ought, we should scarce find any Precedents established, which one Time or other may be brought to justify the Vilest Actions, and to destroy the Liberties of these Kingdoms.

WHEN there is an Emergency that feems to require Extraordinary Remedies, the Business of our Governors, is, To consider, Whether the Situation of Affairs is such, as can warrant the Applying of such violent Physick as must be a Shock to the Constitution in General.

THERE is no doubt but this Matter was carefully weighed by the Projecutors of the late Conspiracy; and that they were thoroughly convinced, that the State could not be secure, nor His Majesty King GEORGE free from Danger, had they not imployed the Force of Parliament to bring such to Punishment, as are at present labouring under it.

THE Banishing the late Bishop of Rochester, and the Imprisoning Mr. Kelly, are such Additions of Strength to the Government, that we ought not to repent, or have the least Apprehensions from the Methods of Evidence established in their respective Cases.

BECAUSE Decyphered Letters, admitted by the Decypherers themselves to be only explained to the best of their Skill, and not by any infallible GRules.

### 82 The TRUE BRITON. No 16

Rules, were fuffered to be the Foundation of the late Charges, without obliging these great Artists to produce their Key; and thus permitting the Whole of the Belief of these Persons Guilt to depend merely on the Science and Knowledge of Men which could not be disproved for want of such Key; is it to be taken for granted, That in every Man's Case here after, this Extraordinary Manner of doing Justice is to be converted into an Example?

BECAUSE the Proof of Similitude of Hands is allowed upon the Oath of a Mellenger, who faw the Person write but once, and contrary to the positive Evidence given on that Occasion by many Witnesses of Credit and Reputation; Is it to be presumed, that this will not be the last Time when such Proceedings will be thus maintained?

BECAUSE in these late Prosecutions, when Names supposed to be sictitious, want Explanation, People should undertake, without the least apparent Foundation, to affert their Meaning; Is it to be supposed this will ever be practised again? No! The Danger which the Bishop and Kelly could bring upon this Kingdom, made it absolutely necessary in Prudence, to deprive them of the Means of prejudicing their Country.

BUT if hereafter, Times less Righteous that these we live in, and Ministers less Watchful than our Present for the Publick Good, should think it convenient and proper to subvert our Government, by depriving it of those Men who ought to be its greatest Support; I am under some Apprehensions, that

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even these good Laws may be abused; and that no fucceeding Administration will be afraid of following the same Rules of Evidence, as have been allowed by so Just a Parliament as that which it is our Bles fing to have at prefent. The sorte od blue had the box

THUS may the most necessary Acts of Power be abused, unless Men do confine their Judgment to the present Time, and never carry their Views farther, nor weigh the future Consequences of all their Actiens. It may often happen, that many Things may feem just to those who only measure the Wisdom of them by their present Appearances; which, taken in a general View, will be discovered in another Light.

MINISTERS ought to be Men of great Temper and Moderation; for the least Passion with which they may be endowed, is of Consequence to the whole Kingdom, and may even give a Turn to the Affairs of Europe. Therefore we ought to esteem it our Bleffing to see His Majesty's Cabinet filled with Men who equally avoid Violence, and purfue Ju-Aice. the Bu got basista as down of All

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IT is impossible for any Person to suggest, that the Discovery of Truth is offensive to any now in Power; Such is the Liberty of the PRESS which flourishes at present. And though Two Printers lately had great Fines imposed on them by the Court of King's Bench; yet it was for Printing and Publishing a scandalous Libel which highly reflected on His Majesty and His Government, on didn hand a to

WAS this Rigour generally pursued, it would infallibly make any Future Law to that End useless, and teach Men to speak the Language that became them; and which should be agreeable to the Administration.

I PERCEIVE, in looking over the publick Papers, a Letter figned by a West-Saxon, and directed to the TRUE BRITON. I think it does not deserve an Answer; for I am determined to despite all the mean Restections of Mercenary Scriblers. But I shall take the Liberty of Writing a Letter to an other Person in his Stile and Words.

#### To the FALSE BRITON.

May it please your Honour, SARTELMIN

A S You are a Man of great Power, I shall think it an Honour to be numbered hereaster among your Correspondents.

Manner, and then fuch is your Rank and Character, that no-body will so much as pretend you ast either to enjoy Place, Hire, or Pension. This gives you an Advantage far above the meaner Tribe of mercenary Creatures; and must certainly gain you the Devotion and Credulity of both H—— of P———

I SHALL not fear, be the Times what they will, to compliment you on your Wife Choice of a Party fit for your Purpose; and your Couragious Defence of a Cause, which, now some People are gone, stands in need of the most Powerful Advocates.

To act for a Party and Cause which seems to be abandoned both by God and Man; To declaim against the best of Men, and cry up the worst; To endeavour to convince us, by Arguments perfectly Weighty, that we labour under a Deceptio Visus, and have lost the Sense of Feeling; and that we neither see nor feel Oppression or Imposture; are such glaring Proofs of your Wit, your Judgment, your Courage, your Disinterestedness, and your Zeal for your Country, as are hardly to be matched in a M—— of your Eminence, except it be in your Illustrious Family.

I HOPE the noble Pulh you lately made for the Rights and Privileges of the Citizens, when you abandoned the Qualities appendant to your Authority, and confented to use your utmost Efforts for chuling Two proper Sheriffs in Opposition to a Majority of Livery Men, and to stretch your Pocket among Leather-Apron Stentors, will never be forgot so long as Gog and Magag stand in the Hall. And pray give me Leave to congratulate your Honour upon the Success.

Without Admiration or Astonishment,

The TRUE BRITON.

MY Readers will forgive the Badness of the Style, because most of the Words are taken from the Gentleman's Letter who wrote to me; though by his Address it is plain he is a Stranger to my Person.

THE following Advertisement came to my Hands Yesterday; and it being to justify the Reputation of a Gentleman, I cannot refuse it a Place in my Paper.

G 3 A S

A S nothing can be dearer to a Man than ble Re-Dutation, I might, perhaps, be thought Self condemned, if I omitted to vindicate mine, which has most basely been struck at in the London Journal dated June the 15th. I shall, therefore, take leave to confider the Part of that Paper which relates to me, in its True Colours, without any Regard to its fut. posed Author; for, let who will be concerned in so in famous a Composition, I know no Authority he can have for traducing and vilifying Innocent Persons. I must own, were I as universally detested as either the reputed Author or Patron of that False and Scandalous Libel, I should scarce presume to justify myself; But as it is not my Lot to have incurred the Just Hatred of my Fellow-Subjects, I dare venture an Appeal to them; and doubt not but I shall stand clear in their Opinions of the Calumny charged upon me by that Vile and Hackney Scribbler toor desert out the cold more

Partial Testimony in Favour of Mr. George Kelly, who is now confined in the Tower; and, in order to maintain this Villainous Accusation, it has been infinuated, that I was previously instructed for that Purpose, because I denied the Letter of the 20th of August, and all other Papers, to be the Prisoner's Hand-writing, except those Letters writ to the Lord Townspend and Mr. Delasaye, which the Prisoner himself was willing should be owned. But I shall make it appear, that this Suggestion is False and Malicious, and that it was impossible I could have been lead in my Evidence by any other Motive, than the Dissimilitude of Hands. For,

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montifient with himself; for he fave, That Me office, we

WHEN I was called before the House of Commons, feveral Papers were shewed me, some of which I took to be Mr. Kelly's Hand writing, and form not; But whether any of them were directed to the Lord Townsbend, or Mr. Delafage, I know not ; nor can I affirm, that I faw, or difowned the Letter of the 20th of August, which is faid to be the Criminal Letter: For the Papers produced, were all, I think (befides Three or Four surned down both at Top and Bottom. which hindred me from feeing either the Dates, or the Names subscribed to them. And those that were not turned down, were dated Two of them in June, One Dated Wednesday-Morning, and Another dated from the Royal-Oak; but what Day of the Month I cannot particularly recollect; Though thus far I am positive, it was not on the 20th of August. Now, as the Letter of the 20th of August, if it was produced there at all, was dated at the Top (as appeared when the Letter was produced at the House of Lords with. out any Disguise) 'tis plain, the Date of the Letter which was concealed, could not have induced me to fay. That it was not of the Prifoper's Hand-writing; nor could the Name subscribed, have given me any better Infight, fince the same Care had been taken to conceal both the Bottom and the Top. And as for the Substance of the Letter, the King's Council can Witness, that it was impossible I could receive any Information from theuce; for they took Care not to give me an Opportunity of reading Half a Line of any one of the Papers produced; fo that I submit to all those who are not blinded with Prejudice, whether this Charge against me can be any other than a Determined and Ignominious Falsehood. The Author is G4 in-

MAN

inconfistent with himself; for he says, That Mr. M'na mara not being so well prepared, denied all in a Lump How can he pretend to reconcile, that Mr. Kell whom he allows to act in other Respects with the un mod Skill and Dexterity, fhould, in that great Po upon which his Fare is faid to depend, be fo fparing of his Instructions to Mr. M. mamars, who was the Second Witness called in; and, consequently, hadia good Opportunity of becoming Expert, if he had been to dispased; But the Opposition of Mr. Met. mara's Testimony and mine, is so far from being Blemish upon either of us, That, considering the favourable Opportunities we had of Adjusting them, every unbiasted Person must needs be convinced, that we Tooke according to our different Notions of M. Kelly's Hand-writing; and that we were far from being prepared, in the Criminal Sense of the Word or in any other Sense than we are at present; viz. To tell the Truth, and fhame Britannicus.

WHEN I appeared at the Bar of the House of Lords, some Papers were produced which had not been shewed me in the House of Commons, though the London Journal says, I spoke to all that was there produced in the same Manner I had done at the Bar of the House of Commons.

THE first Paper laid before me in the House of Lords, was, A Letter of the 20th of August, which I affirmed not to be Mr. Kelly's Hand-writing; and being asked by my Lord Scarborough, Wherein it differed from what I had seen Mr. Kelly write? I answered, In the Form of the Letter, the Largeness of the Hand, and the Wideness of the Lines; Yet Britannicus

tannicus (who pretends to have been a Careful Obfervator in the House of Lords) says, That when I
was asked. In what Mr. Kelly's Hand writing differed from that Letter of the 20th of August, I could
name no Particulars, but that he generally wrote a
smaller Hand. But I appeal to the Noble Lord who
asked me the Question, and to all those who heard
my Answer, If this Assertion of my Accuser, be not
a most Monstrous and Notorious Forgery.

THE Second Paper shewed me in the House of Lords (which Britannicus affirms, I should have faid, had fome Refemblance of Mr. Kelly's Hand-writing; But so little, that I should not have taken it for his) was a Paper relating to the Marriage-Articles; and this Paper I affirm to have owned to be Mr. Kelly's Hand writing as positively as I could. And upon my Lord Chancellor's asking me, If that was not somewhat like the Letter of the 20th of August, I told his Lordship, I could not discover the least Likeness between them; And if there was any, it was so very distant, that I should never take them to be the same Hand-writing. And had I thought of this Paper of Articles in the Manner that this Journalist falfly afferts, I should have spoke to it, and been that Expert Witness he represents me to be. Surely, my Skill would have directed me to have gone through Stitch, and denied at once any Resemblance whatsoever between the Papers; fince I must come off that Way much better.

THUS has this abominable Sycophant perverted the whole Scope of my Evidence; and though it is not Incumbent on me to disprove him any further than

The TRUE BRITON! No 90 than I have been Injured by him; yet I cannot only this Opportunity of letting the World know, Thank the whole Tryal were published by Authority, believe it would appear to have been very Dinne nuoully conveyed through the corrupt Channel of the London Journal. He or how more low of and balls my artiver, if this Allermo of my Acculer, or note

DENNIS KELLT

Till It Second Paper throad me to the thought Lords ( which Bryadony it ediens, I thought have faid, garrier bastle which of the Anistand of the her to herle, that I though mer have rates it for his out a Paper relating to the Marriage are less; and the Pepck I adient to have exped to be the soing lood desting as postered and could. Not specific Ind the scale aski en if their was the longother the the Letter of t ag A spelting beil to rocall side to ad Merry 17 horsel bays of the color and been ener Freore Without he represents the to be. Some he day the price ared of an LaCollabovad bleaw flight Sand and there's east the Medical boat being ands tro a real floor i concide a regrete and many wind une torned and an extent

redraid to said e-marghib of the following will be

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ings. Virase would triumph, and

# TRUE BRITON.

#### NUMB. XI.

Si Vincimus, omnia nobis tuta erunt, Commeatus abunde, Municipia, atque Coloniæ patebunt; Sin metu cesserimus, eadem illa advorsa sient.

ALLA & his Maxims, and defent

MONDAY, JULY 8. 1723.



T is the Mistortune of this Kingdom to be in continual Distraction from the Feuds so industriously formented between Whig and Tory by the Heads of both Parties.

IT is surprizing, that Men born under the Froection of the same Laws, and whose Interest it muually is to preserve the Enjoyment of Liberty, should nake that inestimable Blessing precarious, and enable our Enemies, by these fatal Divisions, to destroy very Thing that is valuable to us.

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and with Courage and Resolution, support the Time Interest of their Country, laying aside all Party Distinctions, it would be soon seen, That even in The Age, Virtue would triumph, and Justice be duly pursued; But when Persons are intimidated from sollowing their sormer Tenets, for sear of being vilished and aspers'd by the Men whose Actions they distown in must be esteem'd, by all Impartial Judges, that they preser the Name to the Principles of their Party.

AT is evident to me, that he may be truly faid to alter his Opinion, who shall call himself of a Party and blindly sollow his Leaders, in Matters directly opposite to his Way of Thinking: But he who per severes in his Maxims, and despises the Name affixed to those who entertain the same Sentiments, is a Constant, Resolute, and Honest Man.

THE great Misfortune it will be to this Kingdom, if ever the Whigs should abandon their Zeal for the Publick Good, is expressed in the following Quotation out of Davenant's Essay upon Trade. I have taken it from the Second Edition of that Treatise, Printed in the Year 1700. Fag. 156, to 160.

'TIS hop'd these Names of Distinction are now quite abolish'd and forgotten; But the Faction of

Guelfs and Ghibelins, after having slept for some

'Time, reviv'd again, and continued upwards

Two hundred Years, even when the Derivation of

the Words was no more remember'd. And the

Parties lasted so long, because the same Principles upon

#### No 11. The TRUE BRITON.

upon which they had first differ'd, remain'd still deeply imprinted in their Minds, and afforded con-

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tinual Matter for new Diffention.

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the Names of Whig and Tory may be again renewed here, to disturb the Nation's Peace; and if this should happen, we must implore the Whigs not to forget their old Principles and antient Maxims.

THE Tories, by taking Arms to defend their Civil Rights, and by joining to depose that Prince by whom those Rights were violated, have, in the most Publick Manner in the World, renounced their Doctrine of Jus Divinum, Passive Obedience, and Non-Resistance.

Stations; if they should go upon that Ground which the Tories have quitted; if they should enter upon just such Measures; if they should pursue the same Councils; if they should suffer themselves to be imbib'd with Tory Notions, our Constitution must be intirely lost.

FOR they may undermine it without Suspicion: Who will be Jealous of those who have been Preaching up Liberty, and accusing Arbitrary Ministers for Thirty Years? Who will suspect such profess'd Patriots? They may change the Form of our Government, and have the People of their side, who can have no Jealousy of them; for the Whigs are the Favourites of the People, as having so often preserv'd England. No Person could be Popular enough

### 94 THE TRUE BRITON. Nº 11

- enough in Rome to think of Subverting its Confi.
- tution in the Purity of the Commonwealth, but
- Manlius who had fav'd the Capitol.
- 1 T will hardly be furmized, that they can mean to inflave us, who (by their Speeches, Actions and
- "Writings) for many Years, seemed rather inclined
- to a Republic, than to despotic Government. But
- if they should come to change their Minds; If they
- fhould throw off their former Principles, we shall
- be undone by the very Men whom we thought bu

ly state strop Historia su

· fureft Friends.

IF Old Whigs should hunt after Places as much as ever the Tories did, and if, like them; upon Preferment, they should become quite New Men in Voting, Thinking, and Speaking, in a Moment making a fudden Turn from the whole Course of their former Lives; If Old Whigs, as the Toris did, should ever take Bribes and Pensions to better their Trust; if they should do any Thing to break into the Habeas Corpus Act, which is the Chie Guardian of our Liberties; If they should oppose any good Act for the frequent Sitting of Parliaments which Want in the Constitution produc'd all our former Miseries; If they should openly oppose any reasonable Provision for Tryals in Treason, the Want of which has loft many a noble Life; and for which heretofore they had so loudly called; If, as the Tories did, they should fend their Emissaries about to influence or corrupt Elections; If Old Whigh to whom Meum and Tuum was once fo facred I should come to ruin a Society of Trading Men, and

at one Blow destroy many hundred Families; but

#### No 11. The TRUE BRITON.

God forbid Englishmen Should even have fuch a Thought: If Old Wbigs shall perfusie any future Prince to Closer Members, as was done in the pret ceding Reigns ; If by their Power they should get Men turn'd out of Employment for purfuing the Distates of their Conscience and Understanding /If; like the Ministers heretofore complained of they s should have a Band of Pensioners ready to give up any Right, to grant any Sum, and to excuse, nay, even to vote their Paymaster Thanks for any Male-

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IF the Old Whigs should restore to Men the same dishonest Interest they had heretofore ; If they should consume us in their Ministerial, and sell us in their Legislative Capacity: If they should defire to have Things govern'd rather by Tricks and little Arts, than according to the Direction of the Laws, or the Bent of the People, If they, who, upon the Virtuous Principle of keeping England a free Country, in former Times opposed all Excises, should be brought to create so many new Offices and Officers, as may Influence Elections round the Kingdom; If they, who heretofore thought the best way to preserve their Civil Rights, was to keep the Purse, and to have always something to give, should be for Settling such an immense Revenue on the Crown, as may make Parliaments unnecessary; If they who were fo careful in King Charles's Reign, o not to burthen the Nation with Taxes, should give away the Peoples Wealth, as if England were a Mine of Treasure never to be exhausted; If they who have ever afferted, that all Rents and Payments to the Crown were the Kingdon's Revenues, and

## 96 TWOTRUE BRITON, NOW

s not Alienable, but by Authority of Parliane

. should, in a short Space of Time come to the

hardly a Purf of Ground either in England or

Meland; If they who formerly thought it fufficien

Matter of Impeachment for a Lord Treasurer of

any Other intrusted by the King, to pass large Grants from the Crown to themselves, should on

to their Creatures, and share among one another in

a few Years, of Crown Lands near to the Valued

' Two Millions,

IF the very Men who have \* Afferted and Claimed it to be their true, ancient and indubitable Right and that it ought to be esteemed, allowed, adjudged in deemed. That the Raising or keeping a Standing Army within the Kingdom in Time of Peace, unless it be with the Consent of Parliament, is again Law; If they who once believed this Eagle in the Air frighted all Motions towards Liberty; If they who heretofore thought Armies in Time of Peace and our Freedoms inconsistent; If the same Mass should throw off a Whig Principle so sundamentals in Forces, and even submit to Troops composed of Foreigners:

IF in this Manner the Old Whigs, whose Forefight and Courage has hitherto preserved England,
should quite change their Minds, and go thus retrograde from all their former Speeches, Actions

artitos ?

Act declaring the Rights and Liberties of the Subject, Pag. 197, 199

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and Councils; If they should thus come to closthe themselves with the Foul, Ridiculous and Detested Garments of the Tories, and give into the worst of their Measures; And if all that has been here discoursed should happen, Then would the Constitution of this Country be utterly subverted.

FOR Men finding themselves thus for sken by the Antient Friends to Liberty, would believe they were bought and sold; They would imagine, That there was no such Thing as Virtue and Honesty remaining in the Kingdom; They would think all Pretentions to the Publick Good, to be nothing but Designs of Ambitious Persons, to lift themselves up to high Honours, upon the Shoulders of the People; And when Nations have before their Eyes an Armed Power to fear, and none in whom they can put any Trust, they seldom tail of submitting to the Yoak'.

N. B. The Livery-Man of London's Letter shall e published in my next. diwoslos at H



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# TRUE BRITON

#### N UaM B. A XIII as amin

Dardanide infensi, panas cum Sanguine pescunt

#### FRIDAT, nd Titl Y 12. 1723.

The Livery Man of Logde.



HE following Letter from a Livery Man of the City of London, claim very justly a Place in this Paper,

#### To the TRUE BRITON.

SIR,

HOPE you will not think it improper to communicate to the Publick the present Situation of our Affairs relating to the late Choice of Sheriffs.

IT has always been the constant Rule of an Arbitrary Government, to destroy the Freedom of Elections, and it has generally been the Fate of the City of London to fall the First Victim to such wicked Schemes.

The Liberties to which we are intitled, are secure and safe under so mild an Administration as at present rules us; and if any illegal and unwarrantable Measures have been pursued, in Opposition to Charter, Justice, and Prescription, we need not fear to meet with Redress in the Courts of Westminster Hall, where impartial Judges are to direct and charge uncorrupt Juries.

ONE of the Great Crimes justly laid on King Charles the Second's Administration, was, The great Blow he struck against the Constitution of England, by depriving us of our Charter. And it is hoped, it will be allowed, That if Persons in Authority are to be supported in the rendring of it Useless, it will be steemed as fully destroyed, as if it were actually surrendred: Since those Magistrates who ought to be the Guardians of our Privileges, submit to exercise their Power in a contrary Manner.

WHEN once the City of London is deprived of ts Rights, every Corporation must expect the same where a Mayor is an Irresolute, and to say no worse; in Easy Man, and shall suffer himself to be imposed upon by wicked Advice, in direct Opposition to the Duty of his Place.

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BEFORE I enter into the Proceedings which have lately been the Subject of Conversation, and are like to create Disturbance where Peace ought most to be preserved, it will be necessary to quote some Clauses in an Act of Common Council, which was passed in

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the Reign of King William; and which continues fill in Force; and which will undoubtedly meet with the greatest Regard. It is intitled, An ACT of Common Council for Settling the Methods of Calling, Adjourning and Dissolving the Common-Halls, upon the several Elections of the Mayor, Sheriffs, Chamborlain and other Officers usually there Chosen.

The Clauses I mean, are as follow.

And it is Enacted and Devained for the future, The if after any Common-Hall is assembled, for any of the Elections, as aforesaid, a Poll and Beruting, or either of them, thall be lawfully bemanded, or any other Discourte thall arise which may require the Adjournment of the said Pall, That then the Right of granting and taking the Poll and Scrusing, or either of them, and Poll and Scrusing, or either of them, and Poll and Scruting are concluded, and the leveral Elections sinished, thall be in the Sheriss of the late Chy for the Eine being, and no other; Any Law, Magret Custom to the contrary normithstanding.

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But if it shall at any Time happen, That any Disput of Difference shall artise at such Elections between the Sheriffs for the Time Deing, touching any Marter we lating to Adjournments, Polis, or Scrutinies, the may impede or hinder the compleating and finished thereof within the Times hereafter for that Purpul limitted and appointed; That then, and in such Cale, all such Differences between them the said Sheriffs shall be determined by the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor for the Time being; and such Deders and Directions of this Lordship shall therein make, shall be observed by the said Sheriffs accordingly; and in Default of an immediate Compliance with such Orders and Directions

## Nº 12. TWO TRUE BRITON.

That then it spull and may be latiful to and for the said Lord Mayor for the Time being, to proceed the granting and taking the Poll and Deruting, or either of them; and in Adjourning the said Poll from Time to Time till such Poll or Deruting are concluded, and the selectal Elections sinished; in like Manner as the said Sheriffs. Chould or might have done, in case no such Difference had happened.

the refinedive Candidates to Ind it is bereby further Enaged and Dedained, Chat where any Boll of Deruting, of either of them, for determining the Elections of the Officers and Persons aforefaid (half be granted, that the Sheriffs for the Time being, thall finith fuch Poll withte Chree Days nert and immediately entuting the first Beeting and Islembling of the Common Hall; And that the late Sheriffs thatt and are hereby required to fintib the Scruting, and to make Beturn of fuch Officers and Berfons, as thatt he to Chosen within Deben Days next and immediately enfuing the finishing fuch Boil: Ind in case of Difference between the lato Sheriffs, as afogelato, that then the Lord Mayor for the Time being, thail, and is hereby required, to finith luch Poll within Chree Days nert and immediately enfuing fuch Difference, and to finish the Deruting, and to make Beturn of fuch Officers and Persons as thatt be to Cholen, within Deben Days next and immediately enfuing the finishing of fuch Boll. in like Manner as the Sheriffs thould have bone, in cafe no fuch Difference as aforefaid, had happened.

Antient Custom of the City, the Common Hall was affembled on Midsummer Day, and the present Sheriffs, who, as you see above, are the Sole Judges of such Election, declared the Majority to be in Favour of Sir John Williams and Mr. Lockwood; upon which a

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Poll was demanded; and carried on Three Days, with the greatest Decency and Order; And such was the Complaisance of the Two Sheriffs, Parsons and Child, that they condescended to name the Hour, on which the Books should close each Night, though they were not obliged to shew any Concession of that Nature.

WHEN the Poll was concluded, they summoned the respective Candidates to name proper Persons who should have the Inspection of the Books, in order to see the Numbers: But Mr. Falkingham (appointed by Sir Richard Hopkins and Mr. Feast as their Inspector) complains, That the present Sheriffs did not stay for his Return out of the Country to finish that Work, which they were in Duty bound to do; and seems to charge them with dealing unfairly, because they did not wait on his Hours, and obey his Summons.

THE Gentlemen, according to the old Custom of the City, and the constant Usage on the like Occasions, declared the Two Persons duly Elected on whom the Majority had justly fallen. And, in the Method of such Declaration, omitted Proclaiming the Numbers, which was feldom or never done on such Occasions. It is certain our present Lord Mayor can never blame this Behaviour, since it is the same which he has observed in the Election of an Alderman for Cripplegate Ward, where his Lordship himself has declined mentioning the Particulars of the Poll: And the Manner in which Mr. Baylis was Sworn Alderman of Breadstreet Ward, is fresh in every Body's Memory, and 'tis hoped Sir John Ward will not forget it.

WHEN the Declaration was thus made, a Scrutiny was demanded by feveral of those who where concerned to find themselves a Minority. And it was Regularly and Justly granted: But, to the great Sur. prize of all honest Liverymen, Sir Gerard Convers, our Lord Mayor, affifted by the Court of Aldermen, came into the Hall, and, by their Mouth Sir William Thompson, declared, they would interpose in this Affair; which they did in the same Manner as was done at the Time that Mr. Papilion and Mr. Dubois were duly chose Sheriffs; and the M ---- y who then prefided, (determined on the Murders of Ruffel. Sidney, and others) obliged Sir John Moore, then Lord Mayor, to come down on the Hustings, and proclaim fuch Persons Sheriffs as they knew would pack Corrupt Juries fit for wicked Purposes.

Clerification Take fine Direction THE Recorder acquainted his Fellow Citizens That our Lord Mayor was determined to do them Justice; and, indeed, it was very manifest, that his Lordship's Intention was to see Right take Place, fince that very Night, he refuted to grant his Precepts to the Clerks of the feveral Companies to produce a List of their respective Livery. Men.

WHAT Reasons Sir Richard Hopkins and Mr. Feast's Friends might have to decline this Impartial Way of Trying the Merits of the Election, are, as yet, kept Secret; though the only Motive which feems to have induced them to avoid this Method of discovering whether the Declaration of the Sheriffs was Just or not, is, That they were Conscious to themselves, That Sir John Williams and Mr. Lockwood had a fair and undoubted Majority of Legal Votes.

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WHEN the Court met on Friday the 5th of this Instant, Mr. Parsons and Mr. Child again renewed their former Declaration, and adjourned it till Five in the Evening, in order to see whether the Lord Mayor or his Advisers would condescend to allow the Citizens of London the Liberty of going through the Scrutiny which had been demanded; and which the Two Candidates who appeared to them to be duly Elected, were willing should be compleated; and in order to it, offered to wave that Clause in the Act of Common Council which fixes a Time for the Determination of such Enquiry.

BUT, to the Great Surprize of all Honest and In partial Judges, his Lordship, attended as before dissolved the Common Hall at Three the same Day; and took this violent Step at a Time when the City was in such great Confusion, and so important a Point remained undetermined. - He' declared, That they were convinced the Majority had fallen on Hopkins and Feast: And this he had no other Authority for afferting, but the Oaths of some Inspectors, and Mr. Falkingham, who had before complained, that the Sheriffs had treated him ill by preventing his Casting up the intire Poll. He and those other Persons deposed, That they believe the Numbers were fuch as were then declared: And thus the Court of Aldermen, without ever feeing the Books, and depending on the Opinion of those Men, resolutely ventured to contradict what the proper Officers, who had the Poll to produce for their Justification, had regularly, and in the usual Manner, proclaimed and maintained.

THE Citizens of London cannot but fee what a Dangerous Blow it will be to their Freedom, if the Election of Sheriffs should thus be wrested from them, and given to the Court of Aldermen; who, if they should succeed at this Juncture, will never part with that great Privilege: And, therefore, if ever there was a Situation of Affairs when Courage and Resolution were necessary to be exerted, it is at present; or else there is an End of the Privileges of which we have, with such Reason, boasted.

IT is hoped, that fince they have taken 'till Tuefe day next to cousider of this Affair, they will still do Justice to their Fellow-Citizens, by admitting Sir John Williams and Mr. Lockwood to Seal their necessary Bonds, who are, undoubtedly, duly chose, and fairly returned.

THERE will soon appear a Number of Assidavits taken on this Account, which will convince all Mankind with how much Bribery and Corruption this Matter has been pursued; and what Efforts have been made by all Persons in Employment or Authority, to carry a Legal Majority for Two Gentlemen, whose Characters are well known to all their Neighbours.

I WOULD once more observe, That the People of England are effentially concerned in this great Affair, since the last Time that our Rights were thus Violated, Corrupt Juries soon ensued, who brought Lord Russel and Colonel Sidney to the Block, and ruin'd many Honest Families.

THE Resentment of those Times was levell'd at Pilkington and Shute, whose Courage and Resolution is equall'd, if not surpass'd, by the Just and Intrepid Part which Mr. Parsons and Mr. Child have acted in Support of their own and their Country's Rights.

IT is hoped, Sir William Thompson's Zeal, exerted on this Occasion, is purely by Command, and not according to his own Opinion and Advice: For if it should appear, that he has been Instrumental in Animating and Encouraging these Feuds, it may justly be said, That the Favours lately bestow'd on him by the Court, are not plac'd so deservedly as a could be wish'd.

I HOPE, that he will give Honest Counsel to the Good of the City; though if he should lie under a Mistake, it is not the First Time that he hath been missed, as appears by the following Resolution pass'd in the Last Parliament relating to him:

RESOLVED, THAT the several Informa-

- tions in the faid Report mentioned to have been
- given to the faid Committee by Sir William Thomp.
- fon, Kt. (a Member of this House, tending to accuse
- the Right Honourable Nichclas Lechmere, Esq; Hie
- Majesty's Attorney General, and one of His Ma.
- ' jesty's most Honourable Privy Council, of Corrupt
- and Evil Practices, are Malicious, False, Scanda,
- lous, and utterly Groundless.

SINCE the Sheriffs are allow'd to take a Poll of Scrutiny on an Election, is it not repugnant to Reason,

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as well as Law, to suppose they have no Right to form any Judgment thereupon as to the Majority of Legal Votes, when their own Sasety depends upon it? for they are obliged to make a just Declaration and Return of such Persons as are duly Elected by such a Majority, which the Nature of their Oath of Office requires of them.

IN this Case, a Scrutiny was demanded; To sensible were the Persons present, that the Sheriffs Authority was duly executed; and they submitted to it by making such a Demand.

EVERY Body must admit, That it is the Duty of the Lord Mayor to issue out his Precept to the Clerks of the several Companies to return the Lists of the Livery, in order to enable the Sheriffs to receive farther Information, and to determine, with more Certainty, on whom the Election is of Right fallen: But in Case of such Refusal, when a proper Application hath been made for the Purpose, the Sheriffs are obliged by their Oath of Office, and by the strictest Rules of Reason and Justice, to go through the Enquiry in the best Manner they are able, and to make such Return as in their Consciences they believe to be just.

IT is evident and clear. That the Lord Mayor and Aldermen can have no Authority to make a Declaration of Officers, at whose Election they had no Right to preside, and, consequently, no Opportunity of discovering the Frauds and Abuses that might have been practised.

THE Sheriffs are not the Officers of the Coun of Aldermen; for though, by the Indulgence of the Crown, they are to be chose by their Fellow-Citizens, yet they Yearly Accompt with His Majesty in His Exchequer, and not with the Lord Mayor and Aldermen, as naturally they would do, if they were dependant on them.

IT is hoped, that one Confideration will have Weight with the Gentlemen themselves; which is, If they should, in so unwarrantable a Manner, take Pos fession of those Offices; and that hereafter it should appear, as it infallibly will, that they are not Elected by a Majority of Legal Votes, every Corporal Exc. cution will be deemed a Murther; and all other Pro ceffes will be no less than Robberies: And the whole World is left to judge what a Train of dire Confequences must attend such unwarrantable Proceedings. The Declaration of a Lord Mayor will never prove a Justification in Law to fave them from the Criminal and Civil Profecutions to which they may subject themselves by rashly taking this Office upon them, when a Majority of Legal Votes will be proved against them.

IT is not doubted but the Common-Council of London will affift their Fellow-Citizens in afferting their Rights; and that they will act with Vigour at this Important Juncture, notwithstanding any Menaces to deter them from it: Neither will they fear the Example of Alderman Cornish, who, when he appeared most Zealous for the Defence of the City, was, by the Ministers

Nº 12. The TRUE BRITON. 109 Ministers at that Time, estemed too Honest a Man to live.

THE Method of destroying him, with many other Worthy Citizens, was, contriving a Sham-Plot, and Bribing of Corrupt Witnesses to swear them into it: And the Pack'd Juries returned by the Lord Mayor's Sheriffs, with great Chearfulness and Pleasure, found them Guilty.

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Your Humble Servant,

A Whig Livery-Man of London.

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### TRUE BRITON.

NUMB. XIII.

Populus me sibilat at mihi plaudo
Ipse domi, simul ac nummos contemplor in arca.

HOR

MONDAY, JULY 15. 1723.



KINGDOM can never be happy where the Interest of the King is oppofite to the Good of his People, and when a Prince is obliged to overture the Bulwarks of Liberty in order to

maintain Himself on the Throne.

THIS is now the Unfortunate Situation of most States in Europe where the destructive Doctrine is received, That a Man's Duty to his Country is to be measured by his Allegiance to his Master, when it may be inconsistent and opposite.

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on, where King Augustus labours to settle the Succession on his Son, and render the Crown Hereditary. Every Patriot ought to oppose such Attempts and endeavour to preserve the Government in its Antient and Natural Purity. It must be allowed, that no Person who pursues the true Interest of that Kingdom, ought to yield to those foreign Innovations. It is certain, that King Augustus has so far complied with their Dispositions, as to change that Religion of which whilst he only was Elector of Saxony, he had appeared a Zealous Defender; But still it were happy for the Poles, if they could find him as true an Affertor of their Civil Rights, as he appears a sincere Convert to their Faith.

1N Sweden, the present King must have different Views from the Inclination of his People, and he must esteem his Title to the Crown precarious. Such a Thought will prompt him to make the best Use of his Time to improve the Advantages he has at present, to the private Benefit of his Hereditary Dominions.

THE glorious Stand lately made by the States, deserves to be recorded to their Eternal Honour; who, notwithstanding the King and Queen's Letters, resolved to give the Title of Royal Highness to the Duke of Holsein; whose Right they seem inclined to desend. There cannot be a greater Satisfaction, than to see those who are the Natural Guardians of Liberty, exert their Power to that great End: And on the other Hand, what a Missortune must it be to a Nation, where those who are intrusted on the Part of the People

### 112 The TRUE BRITON: No 12

People as their Representatives, imploy the Confidence their Principals repose in them, to yield up their Privileges to the Will of an Arbitrary Administration, and resign themselves to the Discretion of corrupt and destructive Counsels? It must be as fatal to that unfortunate Country, as it was to Rome, where the Power of the Tribunes came to be the Chief Instrument that inslaved them.

IN France the Regent's Scheme, is to fecure his Ascending the Throne, whenever it becomes vacant by the Death of the present King; and whatever can promote that End, will be stilled the true Interest of the Kingdom, by his Royal Highness and his Creatures. The Affairs, both Foreign and Domestick, will be conducted with that View, and that single Consideration will influence all his Councils.

IT is our Happiness in Great Britain, to be free from all the Mischiess which naturally attend such pernicious Counsels; and we have the Satisfaction of knowing, that our King can have no separate Interest from that of the Publick: Therefore it is no Wonder that those Men who are deluded by an extraordinary Way of Thinking, and oppose any of his Ministers Measures, should be branded with Disaffection; and it is certain, that no Power ought to be esteemed dangerous when vested in such Hands.

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THE Great Misfortune which may hereafter prove the Confequence of such Condescention in the Legislature, ought not to affright us, since it is visible, the Administration of Affairs will be continued in the Hands

# No 13. The TRUB BRITON. 113. Hands of Whigs, who always tell us they are the great

Patrons of Liberty of June, by are the great Patrons of Liberty of June 1 of

WHENEVER Ministers are sensible that their Actions are faulty, and will incur the Publick Censure, they will shire Hackney Scriblers to justify their Actions to the World; and there cannot be a greater Sign that Men in Authority are conscious of their own Guilt than their taking such extraordinary Pains to varnish the worst of Actions.

FOR my Part, it is with Pleasure I see some Persons very much moved at the Encouragement this Paper has found in the World; and I assure them, that fince I find it is disliked, they may depend upon my continuing of it with double the Spirit.

I SHALL not fay any Thing relating to the Person on whom such Reslections are cast by these Writers; but should beg of these Mercenary Tools to vindicate their Pay-Masters, by answering any Parts of what has been objected to them, by Men who are not wise enough to discover some Vertues where they are wanting.

IF fuch a Venal Pen were to write a Panegyrick on the Persons that employ him, he must alter his Style, as they vary in their Way of Acting.

IN the QUEEN's Time, he must say, That the Schism and Conformity Acts weaken'd the Protestant Interest; but in this Government, he must affert, That the Church was in Danger by Repealing of them.

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### THE THE TRUBBRITON IT NO 1

IN the QUEEN's Time, he will accuse the Men that then were at the Helm, of Breach of Trus, for having put an End to a long and expensive Warby the Treaty of Breach on But in these we make write in Favour of Alliances entred into on the fame Foundation, some and have a blood at other securit.

Time; and foon after become the Advocate and Skreen of those who had brought upon us such general Destruction, that can be compared to nothing man properly than an universal Delage; whence and escaped but those that were in the Arking I and an an escaped but those that were in the Arking I and an an escaped but those that were in the Arking I am an escaped but those that were in the Arking I am an an escaped but those that were in the Arking I am an an escaped but those that were in the Arking I am an an armine the Arking I am an armine the Arking I am an armine the armine the Arking I am an armine the armine the

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HE must plead for Attainders, or Mercy, just as it suits his Master's Conveniency, without the least Regard to Justice or Trusts: And then he must have he Considence to aconse every Man who differs from him without having varied in his Way of Atting.

ny continuing of it with double the Spir

THE Words of such People are no more tobe esteemed, than the Speech of a Corrupt Member in House of Parliament, when he is talking as if he was to be paid, as Hackney Coachmen, by the Hour.

what has been objected to them, by Men who are not

ALL the Reflections cast in a certain Paper of Gentleman there call'd Shatter, relate to his Private Life; and none can suffer from them but himself.

WHEN Men at the Head of Affairs are guilty of Crimes, the whole Kingdom, nay, all Europe, mor fuffer from the meanest of their Faults; and they are

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The TRUB BRITON. to answer for the Welfare of all that live them.

#### THE hadd Number of our Troops is not car can To the TRUE BRITON. Prince in wing Hands Manistra might fofely court

everly Thing that is dear to theut.

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THE Authors of our late Glorious Revolution well knowing the fatal Confequences a Standing Army might have in Time of Peace, took effectual Care (as they then thought) to prevent them.

THET were so apprehensive of an Attempt upon their Liberties, that they refused their Glorious Monarch One Favourite Regiment; though he was so Great and so Known an Assertor of Liberty, and could not possibly be suspected of any Attempts on the Freedom of a Nation in the Defence of which he had risqu'd his Life and Fortune.

THERE is not one Instance in History, of a Free State and a Standing Army Subsisting long together.

THERE are, indeed, many Instances of the Civil Power being destroyed by an Army , particularly during the Usurpation of Cromwell, when our Grandfathers were reduced to the most abject Slavery, by a Number of Soldiers much inferior to what has since been seen in Time of Peace. art very Hamble 8

WE are at present in no Danger from our Army. which is so small, That a Scheme to dethrone His M-y, and which was voted by the P -t to be

## be a dangerous one, was to have been executed by To

Hundred Soldiers.

THE small Number of our Troops is not our only Security: Our Army is under the Command of Prince in whose Hands Mankind might safely trust every Thing that is dear to them.

BUT if ever His Majesty's Affairs should call bin into his Foreign Dominions, and a wicked and evil Minister should clandestinely obtain a Grant to command the Army (in His Absence) without any Controll, and independent of the Civil Power, How deplorable would our Condition then be!

WE should then study That our Military Power, small as it is, would be sufficient to keep us in persect Submission.

NOR is it likely, that a Minister who should this possess himself of so unwarrantable a Power, would can to regnit again, even to bis Master. He would very reasonably, (on the Resuming of the Civil Power) so an Impeachment in Parliament; and he might possess to less Head for so daring an Attack on the Liberies of bis Fellow Subjects.

I am, SIR,

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Your very Humble Servant and Admirer,

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## TRUE BRITON.

#### WIX er B. W U M Ene of

Degeneres Animos timor arguit.

VIR G.

FRIDAY, JULY 119. 1723.



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HAVE lately read forme Libels that reflect on a certain Person of Quality, as if he were the Author of this Paper. I dage affirm, That those who affert that Fact, are Strangers to me; for I

has of late been flopped; and

am but a Country Gentleman. But I think myfelf obliged to clear my Character from all Accusations brought against any Man, who is suspected of being soncerned in this Work.

THE True Briton has already done some Service to the Publick, since he has provok'd the Mercenary and Hackney Seriblers of an abandon'd Faction to entertain the Town with Domestick Abuses, and to horten the Fireign Intelligence, which generally used

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to

to fill their Papers. What they now seem to make Leery Rody can difference; but their formits files of Entertaining is with Lyes from Abress, confidence of Salily be consisted.

I DID not intend to have troubled my Readen with any Remarks on such impotent Malice as of land has been published: But when I find, That, not content with reviling the Character of the supposed to there, which cannot suffer by the weak Research fuch Wretches, they grow so wanton in Falsehood as to contradict Matters of Fact, I cannot sorbear offering some sew Considerations in Defence of Truth the greatest Enemy to them and their Party.

fon infinuated to have thus delivered his Thoughn is, That he received a Penfion forme Time ago, which has of late been stopp'd; and thus they would induce the World to believe, that what I call Zeal is pure Resemble. But to give a plain Answer to the finuation, I protest and declare, That I never any such Favour from the Crown; and can acres the Truth of this, to those whose Province it naturally is to have the Care of the Finances. This, I say could do now, were it proper to declare my Name and this I will do at a more seasonable Time and Place, when Persons able to do me Justice in this Particular, will, I dare say, confess to the Publick my Innocence from that Charge.

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of MUST confess. That they have laid a great many Personal Faults to my Door; But their Be flections are only in Words, and I am little concerned

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Nº 14. The TRUE BRITON.

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at fuch a Method of Reviling me. Every Person is liable to be thus calumniated; and it is the Ducy of every Honeft Man to despite this Manner of tradacing his Character. The only levere Method of convincing the World, that Reputation is really affected, is, When a bare Narrative of undenlable Facts, without any indecent Expressions, is construed and called a Scandalous and Traiterous Libel by those concerned in the Transactions presumed to be Villainous. Men who are so sensible of their own Guilt, as to thew a Refentment on that Occasion, need give no other Proof of the Truth of what is alledg'd against them. All other Ways of Abusing are Trifles, and Immaterial; and therefore, I shall take this Opportunity of declaring, I shall not trouble myself with saying any more on this Subject, but only in General affure my Friends, That I never will facrifice the True Interest of OLD ENGLAND to any Cabal; hor depart from the Duties incumbent on me as a Subject, to the best of Kings, and a Member of a free Government. These shall be always next my Heart and before my Eyes, till the Hand of Providence Hops my Pilgrimage. And what Faults I may have, they shall never be to the Publick, nor obstruct my Zeal for that Prince and Family, which, by all the Ties of Confeience and interest, we ought to support. lons on this Occation,

SOME of these Papers endeavour to answer the Letter sent to me from a Whig-Livery-Man. But, for the Satisfaction of the Citizens of London, I shall clearly shew, That they rather strengthen than invalidate any Arguments brought to prove the precarious Condition of the Liberties of that Great and Populous City.

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### 120 The TRUE BRITON. No

ON E, who is intirely infignificant, begins a pour Preamble, that has nothing in it but Work and I shall only confine myself to Matters of Fast.

H.E. infinuates, in his Third Paragraph, That he is a Foreigner; and indeed, I am very apt to believe he Speaks Truth in this Particular ; fince he, at the fame Time, advances a Principle very unbecoming a Ma who would appear a Defender of Liberty. He own That if the City of London were to lose their Prin leges, he had rather trust them with so excellent Prince as his Present Majesty, than in the Hands Mr. Humphrey Parsons. For my Part, no one of have a more just Sense of our present Happiness living under fo Gracious a Sovereign, than I have but I must own, Though every Thing is secure in a Hands, yet Time must come, when His Majesty a His Royal Highness, for our Sins, will be taken for us, and then I will declare, I had rather fee t Sheriffs of London, who are chofe by the Citize defending their Rights, than fee those Right owing to the Favour of a Court, and liable to be rate away at Pleasure. His Majesty is not at all concern in the present Dispute; neither do I suppose, an one in Authority would interpole or influence any le fons on this Occasion.

No 14. The TRUE BRATON. 121 and Integrity, that they cannot be prefumed to countenance and advise such unwarrantable Acts.

THIS Writer proceeds next to dispute that which was never yet denied by any Person, That Sir John Williams and Mr. Lockwood had a Majority in the Common Hall. He casts some vile Reslections on Mr. Alderman Parsons, who, by his Steadiness and upright Behaviour at this important Juncture, could expect no less than to draw upon himself the Enmity of such Mercenary Tools.

THE many false Assertions contained throughout the Paper, are too infignificant, and will be too little regarded by Mankind to make an Answer necessary: And that I may not trouble my Readers long with entering into the Particulars of the whole Assar upon which I have lately writ so fully, I shall content mysfelf with referring them to what I have said formerly; and shall only assure them, That on a farther Enquiry, I stated the Facts as they really will appear.

THE Manner in which he represents the Oath of Mr. Falkingham, upon whose Credit my Lord Mayor has built his Belief of this Majority, appears to be absolutely salse, by the Accounts they have given themselves; for, they only pretend to say, He swears to the best of his Knowledge and Belief; whereas this Scribler presumes to say, His Oath was positive and certain.

THE Quibble, with which they would evade the Demand of a Scrutiny, must occasion some Mirth; for they affirm it only related to the Numbers. But

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at that Time, the Schemes which were afterwards practifed, were not contrived; neither had the Lord Mayor and bis Aldermen then taken the Resolution of acting contrary to Charter and Prescription.

THIS Writer allows, that my Lord Mayor refused his Precepts; But, says he, The Reason was, Be cause those Precepts were only of the as to the Rigon and Qualifications of the Pollers, and not as to the Numbers. This Admission is very fair, and plain shews, That the Rights and Qualifications of the Livery-Men were out of the Question, and a Legal Majority the least of their Care. They thought it fufficient, if, by admitting Clerks of the Post-Office and Common Soldiers to Vote, they could carry the Point against the Livery-Men of the City; who had no way of Maintaining the Power they had of chooms their own Sheriffs, but endeavouring to discover the many Abufes which had been practifed at the Election and which the Method of carrying on fuch an Election on, made but too eafy.

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THIS Proceeding, says he, in another Part of his Paper, if it appeared to any a little extraordinary is vindicated by the unreasonable Methods of the Sheriffs, which made it necessary. What a Manner of Argument this is, is submitted to the whole World; And if what they have fallly laid to the Door of the Sheriffs, were true, is it a Reason, either in Justice or Conscience, to induce my L— M—— and his Al——— n to break through the Charter, and infringe the just Rights of his Fellow Citizens! The Law was open to have punished Mr. Parsons and Mr. Child, if they had acted contrary to it; And I don't

Nº 14 The TRUE BRITON

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don't doubt but to see the Day, when Sir G.

C.—, with his pretended Sheriffs, will be put in Mind, that we live in a free Government, where Oppression is Odious; and where their Proceedings will be shewn in their proper Colours.

HE admits, that the By-Laws only provided in Case of Disputes between the Two Sheriffs; But he says, They could not imagine Sheriffs would return a Minority on the Polt. This, I think, is pretty extraordinary, to justify an Action which he confesses is contrary to Law which Law can be repealed by no Inferior Authority to that which Enacted it. In this Place he makes a Trifle of those Clauses mentions ed in a former Paper; but when he come to contest, That Sir John Williams and Mr. Lockwood were willing to wave that Claufe which fixes a Time for the Scrutiny, in order to go through the Examination fully and impartially, he afferts, It was not in their Power to wave any Part of it; though my L M - has resolutely ventured to destroy the Whole. He then declares, That he will be try'd by a Jury of Citizens: But I would have him be better affured, that the Pretenders H ms and P will be confirmed in their Office, before he submits to such a Tryal: For if ever this Scribler or his Mafters come to appear before Twelve Impartial Honof Men, believe they would have what hiok People would esteem Justice.

I SHALL never more give myself the least Trouble of answering, or so much as mentioning any of their malicious Respections for the future; but shall continue to lay Truth open in the best Manner that

### 124 The TRUE BRITON! No

my Capacity will permit: And as for the Nerson so fally accused of being turned Authorized, I believe he rather receives Joy than Displete find himself treated by the Faction with the Inveteracy that they bear to the Liberties of Country.

THIS late Step relating to the Sheriffs, fufficiently justifies those worthy Men who opposed for G — being L — M — ; and could the City have foreseen the Calamiries which have been the Fruits of his Reign, I make no manner of Doubt but that, had he been Elected in that Office, it would have been by the Court of Aldermen only, and in Opposition to a Legal Majority.

TO get a Number of People in their Court, they were forc'd to apply to Sir H - 1 M - 15 (alan South Sea Director) to act on this Occasion; Who has been used to this kind of Behaviour in the Management of that destructive Scheme.

OUR L — M —, from the Abundance of his Zeal, refuses still to swear Sir John Williams Alderman of Cripplegate Ward; though he has admitted him to be first on the Poll. So unwillingly can they do Justice, who only talk of it; and think it sufficient to be flatter'd by their Creatures, and paid by their Masters.



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### TRUE BRITON.

#### NUMB. XV.

Simili frondescit Virga Metallo. VIRG

Monday Yard U. L. Y. 22 ...... 1723.



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HERE is not any one Confideration, that reflects more Honour on the prefent wife and virtuous Administration, than the supplying every Vacancy in the Ep.— 1 Bench with such inimi-

one Man now Abroad, whom no M

Nations, and the Curiofities of our Own.

IF we regard them in their Scholastick, and Sacerdotal Qualifications, where shall we find, in so small a Number of Men, so many Prodigies of Learning, and Ability? It must be allowed indeed, that many of their Predecessors equalled them in Composure, but all impartial Criticks concur, that none of them had Talents half so well adapted to Translation. Whilst he, whose Company they a little while ago,

### 124 The TRUE BRITON! No

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Person so fally accused of being rurned Author
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### TRUE BRITON.

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table Personages, as are at once the Surprise of other Nations, and the Curiosities of our Own.

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#### 156 The TRUE BRITON.

with so much Praisence, as well as Justice, as was confessedly not upon a Level with them in

IF we regard them again in their Political O ties, as L-s of P-t, we shall find them, in the most disinterested Manner, giving their Suffrages for the Good of their Country, and the Ministry; and this too, not by Couples or Deafes, but by Score almost, at a Time. And it ought to be transmitted to Posterity in indelible Characters, that to their Zeal and Affidulty in some late P -- tary Affair, is principally owing that Unanimity observable a present among all Ranks of People, from the Land End to the Orkneys. Such an Unanimity, as this Nation was hardly ever bles'd with before! For fince the Departure of the late Biftop of Rocheller into Exile, 'tie univerfally agreed on, That there is one Man now Abroad, whom no Man defires to fee HERE is dot any ornings sake emos that reslects more Honour on the pre-

BUT I would not have my Country men belief that to have so venerable a Body of Men so and Pastors, is a Blessing common to other Countries well as our own. No, 'tis the peculiar Felicity of Englishmen. The Reformation indeed, has been of far beneficial, even to those Countries which yet retain the old Superstition, that their Bishops, since that Time, have been much less exceptionable, either as to Innocence, or Literature, than before. A little before, and about the Time, that the Light of the Reformation began to dawn, there was not such a Pack of abject Wretches in the World as the Eaderstiticks of most Countries. To confirm this, I shall oblige the Curious with Part of a Manuscript I piet of

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### Nº 15. THOTRUE BRITONS 629

up in my Travels into Spain. I think Lhad it in the Franciscans Library at Madrid. It had no Date, but it is plain it could not be writ a great many Consumes ago.

Having finished what I had to say on State Affairs.
I come now to the Churchmen of this Reign, which I shall describe with that Openness and Freedem, as becomes a Candid Historian; and the rather, because none of my Cotemporaries, who wrote to publish, have dared to take Notice of them in their Writings.

THE Doctrines of Martin Luther having made considerable Progress in Germany and other Parts and perverted many well-meaning Christians from the Catholick Faith, it was high Time for the Spanish Ministry to take Umbrage, and proceed in an extraordinary Manner against the Propagators of new Opinions, and unreceived Tenets. There was at this Time an eminent Father of the Church, the Bibop of Tortofa, who publickly espoused several Doctrines, which were thought to favour of the New Herely, and for which, Don Ferdinando, who was at this Time Comptroller of the Finances, and Prime Minister of Spain, a Mortal Enemy of the Bishop's, resolved to summon him before the Inquifition. The Inquisition at this Time confished of fuch mean Creatures, that most People thought Don Ferdinando had placed them there, for no other Reason but to make the Sant' Officio appear contemptible and ridiculous to the whole World. certain, he had no manner of Regard for them, any far.

### THOTRUE BRITON NO 16

- farther than they ferved his Political Purpul
- Having ordered them one Morning to attend h
- his Levee, he thus bespoke them. Disos is and
- " YO U remember, Venerable Fathers, and reme of I hope, with Resentment and Indignation,
- " fome Years ago that Apostate Doctor the Bishop
- " Tortofa, broach'd that impious and abfura He
- "That Quadrupedes had four Feet; and now of
- " again, to the great Scandal of Religion, and his bil
- " Function, he has revived that damnable Doll
- and Position, That Two and Two make Four. " which abominable and Antichristian Tenets -
- " If I don't crush him If I don't squeeze him
- a even to Destruction may I never more count
- "Publick Money on a Gridiron; or, which is the face "Thing, May not one kind Piftole drop through
- " I do. May this Arm be never more exten
- to receive, \_\_\_ nor this to give.
- Word, May this Right Hand forget its Cunning.
- IT will appear to you likewife, Venerable Father,
- as clear as the Sun at Noon. Day, without any man
- " ner of Proof, that a private Correspondence bas long been carried on between the Bishop and Martin
- Luther.
- " YOU remember, that you will be on this Occasion in your Inquisitive, not Episcopal Capacities, and
- that the Holy Inquisition does not follow Precedents,
- " but makes them. But enough Take Notice
- " I have whiftled. \_\_\_ Adieu.

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### No 15. The TRUE BRITON. 120

HAVING deliberated on this Matter among themselves very maturely they returned him in Answer next Day by Letter, in the following Words.

of Nineteen Spanish Diocesses.

"Terrefo has been long imployed in carrying so at

17 Eyour Excellency's Right Reverend Drudges, the Titular Cardinal Archbishop, and the rest of the Bishops, commonly so called, beg lease to assure you, That we are fully satisfied and convinced, before we know any Thing of the Matter, that a private Correspondence has long been carried on between the Bishop of Tortola and Martin Luther. We beg leave likewise to express our hearty Abbor-rence and Detestation of that damnable Doctrine and Position, That Quadrupedes have Four Feet. And we splemaly affirm to your Excellency, That we believe, from the very Bottom of our Hearts, that Two and Two makes Fifteen; and if ever we alter our Opinion, till your Excellency does to roo, the Devil take us and our Posserity to the Mineteenth' Generation: So belp us G. We remain ever obsequious to your Excellency's Whifile. and and "

The Archbishop and Bishops Inquisees.

IT ought to be observed, That before the Bishop had a Hearing in the Inquisition. Don Ferdinando, to put a better Gloss on the Affair, and that it might not appear to be the sole Act of the Inquisitors,

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130 The TRUE BRITON. Nº 11

had convened together some Hundreds of his Creatures of a Lower Class, who, as soon as Don Free

nando had courteoully given each of them bis Ho

came to the following Determinations,

"DETER MINED, That the Bishop of Tortosa has been long imploy'd in carrying on a more implied and Heretical Correspondence with Mana Luther; and this Opinion we are firmly resolved a live and die in, in spite of Truth, Reason, Evidence and Demonstration.

"DETERMINED, That the Bishop me have a Day, to defend himself against the said is culation.

THE Bishop similed at the Considercy of the Determinations, but took no further Notice of the referring himself wholly to the Inquisitors.

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AT length came the Day appointed for his Defence before the Inquisition. He began with a serving to them, How improper a Season it was any Man, at that Time of Day, to publish a Belief of that detested Doctrine, that Two and Two make Four. But the Question, says he, does turn on this Point, whether I believe it or not, whether I have published such my Belief. In Reverend Bretheren, I should be glad to be informed what Evidence you have of this, viz. of a having published that Two and Two make four Why, says the Cardinal Archbishop, this is have proved, from your having corresponded with Man I Luther? But how, Reverend Brother, says the Luther? But how, Reverend Brother, says the latter?

### No 15. The TRUB BRITON.

Bishop, does it appear I have corresponded with Martin Luther? Why this is plain enough, replies the Archbishop, from your Publishing, that Two and Two make Four: They are the corroborating and concurrent Proofs of one another. Besides, you have here the Opinion of several Magi from whose unerring Rules, because we don't understand them, we are fully persuaded of your Guilt.

. THE Magi were then ordered to come in, and explain a certain Paper, which, it was pretended, the Bishop had formerly dropt out of his Pocket; and though he had, it contained nothing but some rough Schemes of Geometry and Mathematicks: However it was an easy Matter to explain it into Herefy. The Magi began with acquainting the Inquisitors, That having travelled quite through the Moon and Planets, their Omniscience in sublunary Affairs was not to be contested : " And, fay they, our Explanations of the Hieroglyphicks in this Heretical Paper, You will certainly allow, as foon as heard, to be the most just and natural in the World, though you neither know why nor wherefore, nor ever shall. The first Mark of any Importance in this Paper, Holy Fathers, we find to be a Figure of 10. Now it being crrtain, that Martin Lusber has just Ten Fingers on his Hands, no more nor no less, it amounts to a Certainty, that this Figure of to cannot possibly stand for any Body else but him. Demonstration by G \_\_ ! cries out the Cardinal Archbishop. The next Figure that occurs, is a Triangle: Now this Triangle having just Three Corners, and being marked upon Paper, must fignify, according to the Rules of our occult Science,

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132 THE TRUE BRITON T Nº 19

"Three thousand Heretical Pampblets, which were a doubtless remitted to the Bishop by Martin Lubery

and intrusted to his Disposal" There was nothing

heard now but a loud Vociferation of Array with bim, Away with bim! Grucify Him, Crucify Him

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And voted to Crucifixion he had certainly been it

Don Ferdinando had not intimated, that it would

be sufficient for his Resentment, if he was only thrown into the Sea.

THUS fell, amidst the Sighs and Tears of the whole Spanish Nation, this most learned and excellent Prelate, a Sacrifice to the sindistive Ill-nature of some implacable Court-Favourites; and this for no other real Cause, but because he would not patiently submit to be one of the Jowlers or Ringwoods of Don Ferdinando.

THERE was one Circumstance, the Day of his Execution, too material to be omitted. While the poor Bishop was yet standing on the Cliff, pati ently expecting his Doom, the little Ebony Dollar came up to Him, to rake his last Farewel Dea Brother, lays He, I with all my Soul commiseran your Sufferings, which, to the best of my poor Abilities, I have all along \_ heartily promoted. But for this Mitre, dear Brother - this Mitre certainly incommode you in Swimming, Give m leave to take it off, and wear it for your fake. Ac cordingly he took it off from the departing Billor Head, and put it on his own. And wear it he long did, amidst the loud and universal Acclamations of the Spanish Nation; such was his inviolable At tachment to his King, his Country, and his Spelling Book!

#### The TRUE BRITON. Nº 15.

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Book! Such his invariable Affection to Letters and Poach'd Eggs IV more at Pile burnt Wiggs In or

Pair of Boots. How Don Ferry travelled with a Fox MY Spanish Author proceeds next to several Particulars relating to Don Ferdinando, whose Name be had so often had Occasion to mention, and which are not to be met with in the ordinary Histories of that Time. As How he lived in great Splender and Magnificence, never going out a Hunting without Eighteen or Twenty Bishops to faddle his Horse; balf a hundred Condes and other Grandees, to hold his Stirrup, and above Three hundred Grooms of a lower Rank for meaner Offices. Of his great Generofity. How he made a Prefent of a Coach and Six to every Man in Spain, whose Name began and ended with the fame Letters That this did. I flow he was named to go Ambassador to the Court of England, but he refused going thither. How afterwards, the King obliged him to accept of it. How the first Thing he did, on his Arrival there, was to fet a Scotch Knight and an Englith Lord by the Ears together and hen laugh at them for their Pains . How the faid Scotch Knight and English Lord went to Boxing privately in the Middle of the Day, and in Presence of a Thou. fand Witnesses. How there was a cruel Three-legged Monster inhabited within a Mile Weltward of Londons out of the Suburb of St. Giles's, which the Natives were forced to appeale every Six Weeks, and limetimes of the With Thomas Goregen How great Numbers of Don Ferdinandole Receive nacrowly effected this Monster. How Don Ferdinando hall a Son setted Don Jeronimo, How he fent him into Enquee Germany, Italy, and other Countries to polish himself. 40000 K 3

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Nation, the Advantage of the Catholick Faith, and the Honour of his Winfrious Family, this begin young Man was declared Grandee of Spain by the Special Favour of his Catholick Majesty; an Honour his Virtuous Parent, out of mere Modesty, resulting the many other corious Particularities I among now at Leisure to translate.

### To the TRUE BRITON.

led cong thiner.

Man in Spains, whose Name began and and a de the the

How Memerde

SIR,

HE Loss of the Roman Liberty, after the Battle of Pharsalia, is very pathetically be wail'd by Lucan in his Seventh Book. All True Lovers of Freedom will, I believe, be as much affected with the Passage as I am; and therefore hope you will print it. I send it you in Row's Parphrase, for the Benefit of your English Readers.

Immortal Gods! with what refiftless Force
Our Growing Empire van its sapid Course?

But now, behold, how Fortune tears away
The Gift of Ages in one Fami Day!
Our Father's fertile Fields by Slaves are till'd,
And Rome with Dregs of Foreign Lands is fill'd.

Des

Dest Liberty! long weary d by our Crunes.
Forfakes us for some better, barbarous Climes.
While Rome, who long pursu'd that Chiefel Good.
O'er Fields of Staughter, and through Seas of Blood.
In Slavery her abject State must mourn,
And scarce dare hope the Goddess will return.
Why were we ever Free? Oh! why has Heav'n
A sport-liv's transwory Blessing giv'n!
Medes and Arabians of the Slavish East,
Beneath Eternal Bondage may be Bless:
While, of a Diff'ring Mould and Nature, swe
From Sire to Son accustom'd to be Free,
Feel Indignation rising in our Blood,
And Blush to wear the Chains that make them Proud.



FRIDAY, JULY 29-

PUBLICK CREDIT is their Credit and Menby which the Publicks in a great Measure, the analytic Body of the Rooph (Review Rich and Powers)



in Sweep her abject State much mourn,

And Scarce dare horse viz HoThels will return

### TRUE BRITON.

#### NUMB. XVI.

Dî Patrii, servațe domum, servate nepotem : Vestrum hoc augurium, vestroque in numine Troja est. VIRG.

FRIDAY, JULY 26. 1723.

### To the TRUE BRITON.

SIR,



S Publick Credit has the greatest Tendency to the Publick Benefit, to which great End all your Elegant Labours seem to be calculated, I doubt not but you will permit the following Thoughts

upon this Subject to appear in your Paper.

PUBLICK CREDIT is that Credit amongst Men by which the Publick, in a great Measure, subsists, and the Body of the People grow Rich and Powerful; for, for, as particular Persons, in their several Callings and Stations, rife to be wealthy by the Influence of Private Credit, so does the Nation in General grow Great and Prosperous by Publick Credit.

EITHER in the one Case or the other, there must be an Appearance of Honesty, at least, to raise this Credit to any considerable Height, so as to be lasting. The People or Nation that are Ambitious of it, should bear the nicest Reputation in the World's They must be Men of Morals and Manners; of Honour and Integrity; Wisdom and Penetration; Fide, lity and Impartiality, and have every commendable Quality which embellishes Mankind; So Blameless must they be in their Lives and Conversations, as not to be suspected capable of an Ill Action.

CONSIDERING the many great Requisites to Publick Credit, it is not to be admired, That every Reign and every Climate is not attended with it: If fuch Men should be at the Helm of a Government who, instead of convincing the Publick, that all their Actions are for the Publick Welfare, should point out in every Step of their Conduct, they are against the Publick: Who, instead of acting Steadily for the Good and Benefit of the People, should act in Concert, with unshaken Steadiness, for the Good of Themselves, and give up the People: Who, refusing to countenance all the Subjects of any Kingdom or Country, should caress and protect the fewest of the Subjects, and those Harpies and Sharpers, and treat contemptuously a Majority of them, known to be Honest; Who, Instead of Interposing their Authority to quiet the Minds of Malecontents to their Government, should take all

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Opportunities to excite Jealousies and Suspicions in the Populace; Then, indeed, Publick Credit would be in a very Languishing Condition.

BUT it is the Happiness of England, (which boafts of fo many peculiar Bleffings) to know no fich Men, and no fuch Government: Our Ministers in Power vigorously act for the Publick Welfare, exclufive of any private Views to themselves; They are fleady to the Interest of His Majesty, and thereby of His People, and intirely unmindful of their owns they countenance and prefer all Sorts of Persons who are Deferving, without the least Distinction of Parties they Rule by a Majority of those whose nice Honour and very great Integrity, fets them above Bribery and Pensions; they endeavour to quiet the Minds of the Subjects, by demonstrating their fincere Intentions to fecure their Properties. In Short, Their whole Conduct is free from Suspicion, that they have any Defigns upon the Liberty of the People.

I F this be our envied Case at this happy Juncture, I hope no one will be so very Audacious, and so much abandon'd to the Good of his Country, as to impute to these Times a Loss of Publick Credit; especially when at present our Revenues are in so flourishing a Condition; when such effectual Care is taken for Payment of the Publick Debts; when our Stocks upon the Royal Exchange are Rising; and when the Interest of Money all over the Kingdom is Sinking; and when we have so much Faith and Considence in one another, as to trust our Treasure even in the Hands of Aliens, upon Personal Security.

the Glorious Price of One thousand per Cent. And all by the excellent Oeconomy of our Honest Managers then in Being, and the great Advance of Publick Credit. And when our Wise and Prudent Governors (who had not the lens Share in the Misfortunes and Plunder of the Times) saw that National Credit was grown too Rampant, and the Harpies of the Alley had precipitately pushed it on to its Ruin, so dreadfully they punished the Authors of our Miseries, that they did not vouchsafe to allow the most Innocent Offenders, who deserved the utmost from their Hands, above the tristing Sum of Thirty thousand Pounds to furnish them with Bread and Water; and other common Necessaries of Life.

the faime Time, a Person of far less Abilities, shough

TO the Immortal Honour of these Times, be it said, That there never before was any South Sea Stock brought to the immense Value of One Thousand per Cent. To the Honour of all former Times be it mentioned, we never till lately, had a South Sea Schem, to strip the Publick of every Thing dear to them, and lift to Honour the Dregs of the People.

WHEN Persons in any Government or Administration, are but liable to Suspicion, Publick Credit
instantly dwindles. A Minister of State is no some
suspected by the Reople, than he is a Cog to Oredit.
When a Man has forseized the Good Opinion the
World had conceived of him, nothing he does will
be attended with Prosperity. If his Talents to govern are never so extensive, yet he'll ever have the
Mortification to find his Undertakings Abortive. At
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THO THRUE BRUTON. Nº 16

the same Time, a Person of far less Abilities, though much greater Honesty, shall Instruence Credit; and bring it to the urmost Height, consistent with the Publick Good. How to proceed the most of the public of the constant of the constan

OF this, I could bring innumerable and undoubted Testimonies in our former Reigns, some whereof I shall bereaster take the Liberry to mention; but a to the Present Times, I shall be wholly silent, less by my Encomiums on the Honesty and Integrity of some Persons in Being, I should bessen their Credit as to their Governing Capacity.

PUBLICK CREDIT is like a Fair Virtuous Missels, coy, and cautiously to be dealt with. So long as her Chastity remains, She is the Delight and Honour of Mankind; but when once the Fence of Virtue is pluck'd down, and she becomes a common Prostitute, every one is in Danger from his Approaches to her. This Allusion is incontestably Just; and the South-Sea Project is sufficiently and abundantly confirming, that no Prostitution is so satal to the People as that of Publick Credit.

IN all National Projects, there should be something Reasonable and Honest proposed to the People for the Support of Gredit, without which it cannot subsist; But we have seen the Time, when neither Sense, Reason, Honesty, nor Common Humanity, have been so much as thought of by some Persons once in Power.

THIS is highly evident in the Conduct of the late South-Sea Directors (I am not so presumptuous to

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#### Nº 16. The TRUE BRITON.

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fig it on any others) and will be eternally evident, fo long as Avarice and Ambition hate the Upper. Hand of Honour and Honesty.

WHEN Don Jersensh found it recedling to rain the Bishop of A. 22, make could not find out a more, moved sidenth ruoto draw up the Lvidence against that unfortunate Frelute than this Singer, who, lead to Jerry 1014 Play, would call the facts Cloud a Count, a World and a White.

THIS Letter was received some time since, and I think it my Duty to convey into the World every thing which seems calculated for the Publick Good, and with which I am judged proper to be intrusted.

I WAS reading the other Day some other Parts of the Spanish Manuscript, from whose Authentick Account of his Times, I hope to be able to inform my Readers of the miserable Situation under which the Spaniards laboured during the violent Government of Don Ferdinando and his Creatures.

THERE is in many Passages great Mention made of a noted Lawyer, who at that Time was Pensioner to the Court, as it appears plainly, by his natural Disposition, he would have been to any Court, any Prince or any Cause, where he might have a probable Security for the Payment of his Salary.

AS to his Religion, it was generally agreed he had none, as was allow'd by his own Friends, who pleaded his Atheism in Excuse for his various Turns: Upon his first Entrance into the World, he was call'd a Calvinist, 'till, being advanc'd by the Faction which then presided, he declared himself a Papist: But soon after

after the Demise of the Person who had stilled him, he quited Landerun.

WHEN Don Ferdinando found it necessary to ruin the Bishop of Torroft, he could not find out a more proper Instrument to draw up the Evidence against that unfortunate Prelate than this Simoni, who, like Polonius in the Play, would call the same Cloud a Camel, a Weasel and a Whale.

THIS Lawyer determined to be well rewarded for his Pains: And accepted of a Pention of 4000 Pistoles per Annum, to betray his Friend, his Party, and his God, which last he feem'd to esteem the least, and gave up without much Reluctance.

FERDINANDO had another View in admitfing this Person into the Council; for he hop'd. That as Simoni was at the Head of the Honest Party that opposed his Measures, he should be able to break into them; and that the same Means would prevail on some other Chiefs as had the same Corrupt Views; and this wicked Minister justly thought, that a Difunion amongst the True Spaniards would impower him easily to execute his Schemes.

BUT, to the eternal Honour of those Great Men who opposed his destructive Designs, they all remained firmly united to the Honest Interest, and plainly shew'd, That it was not in the Power of Simoni, nor any other Renegado, to sow Division, or influence any of their Actions.

e Frelion which then

of the Majority of the Kingdom; but when he tell from Light to Darkness, he only convinced Mankind, That Wie, Learning, and Eloquence, if not supported by Honesty and Integrity, instead of being Ornaments to Virtue, become the most dangerous Instruments of Vice.

great Pavourité of the Clergy, and livid near the University of Toledo. They reflecte de him their great Patron, 'till they perceived their Infatuation, and that he was only getting them in his Powers in order to fell them.

HE had ever lived in strick Intimacy with the Bishop of Tortosa; and yet, without the least Debmurr, he chearfully undertook to endeavour his Debstruction; and at the same Time; was privately infinuating, That he would save him at the last; and these Assurances he gave all the Time of that Bishop's Tryal, whilst he was treating him with Indecency and Barbarity.

OUR Author informs us, That great Endeavours were us'd to engage the Bishop to remain peaceable, and be subservient to their Pleasures; But he scored their vile Menaces, and refus'd their Offers. He thought it was more consistent with his Function and his Principles, to appear innocent, than become Rich.

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AND, rather than fuffer this Great Man to lie under a Necessity of yielding to his Enemies, there would not have been wanting many Grandees, who would chearfully have contributed to his Relief; and who had Spirit enough to have given away that for which the rest were selling their Country will a trans-

ments of Vice. OUR Author tells us. That there was at that Time a Person who publish'd several notorious Truths. which affected Fendinando; and this Minister's Achte ons could only be protected from Cenfure by being concealed : That this Man was taken up by the Inquifition, and feverely threatned for daring to inform the World of undeniable Matters of Fact : But he at the, fame Time remarks, That this Author purfu'd his Intentions with undaunted Courage, and publickly declared, He would own the Caufe of his King and Country, even in the midft of the Flames, if the Inquisition should persecute him to so great a Degree and treat him as they had done many Honest Men For Ferdinando and his Crew thought those were Grimes, which others would think Virtues in . Is all

HE also mentions, That this Ferdinando had a Brother, whose Name was Don Lazerillo, of whom he relates many diverting Particulars. He says, It was his Alliance to the Prime Minister, that drew him into those wicked Measures that he seem'd to sayour. —— There is one Remark that is made of his good Sense, which was, That whenever he spoke in Publick, he was the first that laugh'd at his own Words.

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THERE are a great many other Particulars which shall be mentioned in other Papers relating to General Cacofogo, and another infignificant weak Wretch, who acted almost as bad as Simoni, only wanted his Capacity, and being less useful, was more despised. These two differ'd in some Points from Don Ferdinando.

I SHALL entertain the Town with these Gentlemen hereafter; but shall conclude this Paper with saying, that my Author takes Notice, That Ferdinando and the Partners of his Crimes, appeared like a Gang of Thieves, who always quarrel about dividing the Booty, but unite whenever there is a Robbery or Murder to be committed.



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MONDAY, JULY 29. 1723.

#### To the TRUE BRITON.



HE good Effect of the Papers you have published for the Service of your Country, is already visible: But what does principally recommend them, is, The Facts To justly apply'd by you, in

prosecuting your Great and truly Noble Defign. For, to Men who are less capable of attending to Reason, or who will not submit to her Decisions, there is no other Way of accommodating ourselves, in order to disabuse or convince them, than by laying before them fuch

#### THE TRUE BRITON. fuch fenfible Proofs, from known Charafters or Trans. actions, as cannot be deny'd, and which no Art can either invalidate or evade. I to valv misses you rese

Men were obliged to fabout to the Defpotie! Poste

SHOULD we, therefore, ever happen to live; which Providence avert! in an Age, when, instead of confulting Reason, Men should attempt to govern, or ignominiously submit to be governed, byan Arbitrary Force; when, disclaiming the good old Protestant Way of Arguing, or judging for themselves from the Common Principles of Reason, they should be obliged to regulate their Judgments, as they do in Popile Countries, upon Pain of Military Execution, or under the Awe of an Inquisition, whether Civil or Beclesiastical: (For if I am to fuffer, in any Case, for obeying Reason, and afferting her Authority, it is the fame thing to me, by what Means, or by what Instruments; I suffer) If this, I say, should ever happen to be the Case, that Men were no longer to be permitted to speak or write as Reason should direct: Yet even under fuch Slavish Circumstances, the violent Methods imploy'd to destroy the Common Rights of Mankind, would fill remain as fo many flanding. Monuments of Perfecution and Injustice; and Posterity, difinterested in such Methods, would judge of them in a very different Light from that wherein the blind Prejudices or Passions of Men, had before reprefented them.

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TO illustrate this, in your own Way, by a short Account of those Two corrupt Ministers in the Reign of Henry VII. Empson and Dudleigh: While they acted under the Commission of that King, the Powers whereof they yet notoriously exceeded, they were under

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## 148 The TRUE BRITON. Nº 17.

under no Apprehentions of being call'd to Account to their Scandalous Proceedings; neither did there are pear any certain Way of coming at them; fo that Men were obliged to submit to the Despotiek Power they affumed, and to make the best Composition they could for the exorbitant Mulcts these rapacious Harpies used to inflict upon them. Even those Person who were too confiderable to be immediately affected by their Depredations, were fo over-aw'd by the Amogance of the Men, and Apprehensions of the Authority under which they appeared to act, that they had not the Resolution and Bravery, which might have been expected from the Spirit of True Englishmen, openly to arraign them; dreading, perhaps, that if they should have had the Courage to impeach the Male Administration of these Men, altho' in a House of Parliament, they might possibly incur some seven Censure in the very Place where they would rather have deserved Statues to be erected to their Glory.

AND if, under the Reign of swife, so affin, and (as Lord Bacon represents him) so mereign a Prince, the Influence of these Two Men was so great, as to prevent any Publick or Parliamentary Accusations against them, what a dismal Prospect would a Nation have, if in any future Time, (for at present we can be under no such Apprehensions) the like Instruments of Tyranny should be imployed by a Prince of less shining Qualifications than Henry VII.?

I SHALL here transcribe the Characters which the great Lord Bacon has given of Empson and Dudleigh, not only as more just than I can pretend to draw em, but because he could be supposed to have no

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other View in them, than to instruct Posterity, How precarious in the Event, even the Supports of Royal Favour are to those who have notoriously abused it. There being not the least Resemblance between these Two, and any Living Characters of Distinction, I have nothing farther to do, than to give the Words of that Noble Lord, without any Resection upon them. History Hen. VII. p. 119, 120.

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AS Kings do more eafily find Instruments for their Will and Humour, than for their Service and Honour, He (King Henry VII.) had gotten for his Purpofe, or beyond his Purpose, Two Instruments, Empson and Dudleigh, whom his People effeemed as his Horse-leeches and Shearers; bold Men, careless of Fame, and that took Toll of their Master's Grift. Dudleigh was of a good Family, Eloquent, and one who could put bateful Bufiness into good Language. But Empson, that was the Son of a Sieve-maker, triumph'd always upon the Deed done, putting off all other Respects whatever. These two Persons being Lawyers in Science, and Privy-Counsellors in Authority, as the Corruption of the best Things is the Worst, turned Law and Justice into Wormwood and Rapine; For first, Their Manner was, to cause divers Subjects to be indicted of fundry Crimes, and so far forth to proceed in Form of Law: But when the Bills were found, then presently to commit them; and nevertheless not to produce them to any reasonable Time to their Answer; but to fuffer them to languish in Prison, and by fundry 'artificial Devices and Terrors, to extort from them great Fines and Ransoms, which they termed Compositions and Mitigations.

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#### The TRUE BRITON. No 14. ober View in them, that to influe Postorer

NEITHER did they, towards the End, ob. ferve fo much as the Half-face of Juflice, in proceeding by Indictment: But fent forth their Precept to attach Men, and convene them before themselves and fome others, at their private Houses, in Court of Commission; and there used to shuffle up 4 Summary Proceeding, by Examination, without Tryal of Jury, affuming to themselves there both to deal in Pleas of the Grown, and Controversies Gull. thing Will and Human, thin the their to be as and

THEY would also ruffle with Jurors, and in force them to find as they would direct; and if they did not, convene them, imprison them, and fine . them. I had a without and a wint aid at

lefe of Fame, and that sook Test of their states 'THESE and many other Courses, fitter to be bury'd than repeated, they had of preying upon the People, both like Tame Haveks for their Mafter, and like Wild Haroks for Themselves; infomuchas they grew to great Riches and Substance. But their principal Working was upon Penal Laws, wherein they ipared none, Great nor Small, nor confidend whether the Law was possible or impossible, in Uje or Obfolete; but raked over all Old and New Sututes, though many of them were made with Intertion rather of Terror, than Rigour ; having ever a Rabble of Promoters, Questmongers (or Informers) and leading Jurors at their Command, fo as they could have any thing found, either for Fast or Valuation of them to languilly in Prifon, and by mit? 'arther Det R. S. R. to extern from them.

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IT is a great Misfortune to any Country where Magistrates are governed by Favour or Resentment.

WHEN a Person takes upon himself the Execution of Justice, he ought to lay aside all other Considerations, but the personning his Duty: And if he retains the least Degree of Partiality, it is impossible for him to discharge his Trust, or make the People easy who live under him.

THE best Laws, if they are to be explain'd by corrupt and wicked Men, are no longer the Protection of the Subject; but become Engines to work their Destruction.

THIS Confideration is distant from Us; but if hereafter we should see, even in this Great and Flourishing City, those who are at the Head of it, Imprisoning and Persecuting some unhappy Persons for that kind of Behaviour which they have approved in others, it must be confessed, that we are to expect all the Mischiess which can slow from this unwarrantable Method of Proceeding.

ON the Declaration which was made by my Lord-Mayor and Court of Aldermen relating to H-p-ns and F-ft, their pretended Sh—ffs, the Mob, encouraged, by this last Person, did, in a very Riotous Manner, assemble and insult the Friends of Sir John Williams and Mr. Lockwood with Impunity. There were Fireworks and other Demonstrations of Joy to animate the Spirits of their Mireling Rabble: No

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# Proclamation was read to disperse them; but all Means were us'd to encourage and abett them.

WHE N Sir John Williams came at length to receive his Right, and be sworn Alderman of Cripple gate: Ward, those who assembled to express their Joy on that Occasion, and who innocently were drinking his Health round a Bonsire, found themselves attacked in the most violent Manner, without their having given the least Provocation: And such was the Barbarity of the Faction, that some Men sir'd down in the midst of them, out of the Crown Tavern; and yet the Constables were there, tamely permitting these barbarous Attempts.

WHEN the Mob, thus irritated, began to defend themselves, the Proclamation was immediately read; and before they could possibly separate, several of them were apprehended, sent to Prison, and even threatned with the Loss of their Lives.

IT is certain, that Tumults of all Kinds ought to be suppress'd; but if they are tolerated in a Parry of Men, who want not Malice nor Inclination, can any Person, who by an upright Behaviour, has drawn upon himself their Hatred and Spleen, have any other Security for his Life but their Discretion?

I T is to be hoped, more Care will be taken for the future, that there may not be any Complaints on this Head; but that all Perfons who break the Peace, will be treated as they deserve; and that Punishment will fall upon those who first began the Insults of which

No 17. The TRUE BRITON. 153
Sir John Williams's Friends may, with such Reason,
complain.

## To All TRUE BRITONS.

Fellow-Countrymen,

£

YOU have lately seen some Attempts in Print to justify the Proceedings against the late Bishop of Rochester, and some Speeches have been printed to that Effect; but I think it my Duty to inform you, That Preparations are making to lay a State of that Case bear fore you in the most clear Light.

IT has been thought proper to delay Printing any Thing in Behalf of those who esteemed that Reverend Prelate innocent, for fear it should be judg'd Libelling Men in Authority; But since Mr. Reeves and Mr. Wearg have thought proper to produce their Replies, and a Reverend Prelate to compliment the Publick with his Speech, other Persons who had a Share in that Debate, may now venture to trouble you with the Reasons that induc'd them to form their Opinion.

IT would have been very obliging in the Two Gentlemen above named, if they would have given their Speeches at the Opening of this Case, and not have begun with their Replies.

I CAN easily account for this Omission, when I consider, the great Concessions which were made by them, relating to the Sort of Evidence upon which they were to proceed. But I hope they will yet give those Learned Dis-

# 154 The TRUB BRITON! No 17.

Discourses to the Press, or they will published by some other Hand, from the most accurate Notes that could be taken.

COTTANIOUNT

Your Brother and Friend,

The TRUE BRITON.

IT has been changed from to didly Fri That in Behalf of those was electual that

THE Letter fign'd Marforio, dated July 23, is seceived; and my Correspondent is defired to find the rest of his Thoughts on the same Plan, that they may be Communicated to the Publick in one Paper.

OU have barely few feme Arrender in This is



THE



#### THE

# TRUE BRITON,

#### NUMB. XVIII.

-Si quis

Opprobriis dignum laceraverit, integer ipse; Solventur risu tabulæ: tu missus abibis.

HOR

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2. 1723.

#### To the TRUE BRITON.

SIR,



HERE is not any Thing which so plainly demonstrates the Corruption and Baseness of an Age, as Resemble against the brave and honest Pen which endeavours to reform it. The Comit

mole of and A of social and amplicated

Story stady actions some words and

Muse has always been held useful to this noble End, and its Labours, when meritorious, justly extoll'd. The licentious Pen of Aristophanes has been condemn'd for Personal Reflections on, and for particularly aiming

## 156 The TRUE BRITON. No 18

wife Man of whom the Heathen World could out boal. But the Vices and the Follies of the Grand have been commendably exposed, and our own accellent Authors have, with Applaule, introduced combs of Quality on the Stage.

THERE were no Outcries, no Railing, no Armies of Mercenary Pens, listed against Ben Jonson, Etheridge, Wicherley, &c. Or the Humour of the Age is thrangely alter'd, or their Fools were only well-born, and not in Office: Or is it the Prerogative of Knavery to be exempted from Correction? Thus noble Descent, and large Possessions, shall be no Protection against the Assaults of Wit; but a precarious momentary Employment is a sure Assaults.

MEN are apt to triumph when the Unfortunate Man is crush'd, and sneer when their Equals, nay, their Friends, are exposed: But let a Knave in Power (and sure there have been such!) be but hinted at, nay, if you gently murmur at the Villainy by which you and your Country are ruin'd, the whole Herd of Sycophants are then in Arms to defend the Ordure from whence they receive their vile Nutriment.

IT was, indeed, accounted a prudent Reply of Asinius Pollio, when Augustus Casar had writ some Verses against him, and press'd him to answer them, That he wou'd never write Verses against a Man, in whose Power it was to proscribe him.

TO an Author of less Resolution, and in any other Country, this, Sir, wou'd be a necessary Caution.

#### Nº 18. The TRUE BRITON.

157 tion. But you have 'no Augustus to deal with. To honest Minds your Paper is useful, diverting, and inoffensive; and therefore, I was not a little furpriz'd at the Information I received lately in the Country. that the Printer of the True Briton has fo often been taken into Custody, and a Paper so universally esteem'd because universally read, shou'd give Offence to any, but a certain Magistrate and his Ephori, inspir'd by a vindictive Servant. In vain have our Whig Ancestors so frequently, so strenuously, afferted the Usefulness of Liberty to the Press, shou'd the Printers, on Invendos, Misconstructions, and Per-Sonal Prejudice, be subject to daily Arrests. For tho' they should be discharg'd, (the best they can hope for) yet fuch Proceedings against them, will as certainly reduce them at length to Want and a Gaol. as they would be by the most express and severe Law: In vain may Men flatter themselves with Freedom, when they shall be punished for Declamations against Oppression, Pride and Avarice: And in vain may Men praise an Administration, when even their Praises shall be paraphras'd into Reflections.

THE Person of the King of England has ever been held Sacred, and all True Britons will ever for esteem him; but sure it is New Doctrine, That his Servants are to be plac'd in that Rank. Yet Sacred even as Princes are in their Persons, they will not be offended, if we petty Mortals do not look on them as infallible in their Determinations. It is rendering them the truest and kindest Service to disclose the Vices of those, in whom they have hastily plac'd too much Power; and, instead of offending, it may be agreeable to a Prince, to disclose to him and the World,

## 138 The TRUE BRITON. Nº 18

World, (if ever, in future Times, there should be Occasion) how fincerely a Minister may be abhord by all, who perhaps has obtruded himself into his Councils by a false Representation of his Popularity.

FOR my Part (and I speak the Sense of my Neighbours) I revere your Paper, as it decries Vice in general; nor will I be missed by Mercenary Scribblers to apply it to the present Times. Poor Chestures! how wretchedly do you make your Court when you labour to inlighten what might otherwise remain obscure! When not a former Knave can be lash'd, nor Fool expos'd, but you do most inviduously attribute the Character to some of the present Race! But their Characters are too glaring for you to extinguish; too well known for you to conceal.

should these Creatures be allow'd to scribble on, and so prevail, not only the Press, but the Pulpis must be silenc'd, and History must be prohibited. No Vice or Villainy must be inveigh'd against, no Story told, less they invent a Meaning, and point out a Man in Office, whom they fancy the Character will suit. To exclaim against the Growth of Prophaneness and Immorality will be interpreted by them an Accusation of the present Government, and no doubt their blind Zeal and Venom will think this following Quotation Treason, and apply it to Ferdinando, Simoni, or Cacosogo, when they have decypher'd who they are.

<sup>&#</sup>x27;THE general Interest of the Nation is nothing to him, but only that Portion of it, that he either

#### Nº 18. The TRUE BRITON.

does or would poffes. 'Tie not the Rain that was ters the whole Earth, but that which falls into his

own Ciftern, that must relieve him : not the Com-

mon, but the Enclosure, that must make him

Richentmoo in befrife bue baggers

LET the Publick fink or fwim, fo long as he Fran hold his Head above Water Let the Ship be call away if he may but have the Benefit of the Wreck : Let the Government be ruined by his Avarice, if by the fame Avarice, he can fcrape tosi gether fo much as to make his Peace, and maintain him as well under another. Let Foreigners in. vade and spoil the Land, so long as he has a good Estate in Bank elsewhere. Peradventure, for all this, Men may curfe him as a coverous Wretch, a Traitor and a Villain: But fuch Words are to be look'd upon only as the splendid Declaimings of Novices and Men of Heat, who, while they rail at his Person, perhaps envy his Fortune: Or, possibly, of Losers and Malecontents, whose Portion and Inheritance, is a Freedom to speak. But a Politician must be above Words: Wealth, he knows, answers all z and if it brings a Storm upon him. will provide him also a Coat to weather it out.

THAT such Thoughts and Principles as these lie at the Bottom of most Men's Actions; At the Bottom do I say? Nay, sit at the Top, and visibly hold the Helm in the Management of the weightiest Affairs of most Nations, we need not much History, nor Curiosity of Observation, to convince us; For though there have not been wanting such here tofore as have practised these unworthy Arts, (for-

was so feedble my

#### 160 THE TRUE BRITON. NO 14

- almuch as there have been Villains in all Places
- and all Ages) yet now a days they are owned
- above board; "And whereas," Men formerly had
- them in Defign ; amongst us, they are openly
- vouched, argued, and afferted in common Dif.

LET the Publick stak on fiving, to long as be

courfe. "

THESE Hackney Scriblers will not readily find out whence this is taken. It is not impossible but the little Phong Doctor may inform them. I will only affure them, That it was deliver'd by one of the greatest Orators of his Time, and receiv'd with great Applause, in a Reign, which, his turbulen Friends say, aim'd at Absolute Power.

I fincerely with your Labours their deferved and defired Success, and am, SIR, but their deferved and

Tours, &c. mis and in

#### CAVALIER

tl

I A M very much obliged to the Person who wrote the foregoing Letter, and affure him, I will endeavour to merit that Character which he seems to give me, and which I am too sensible my own Capacity does not deserve, but my Inclinations induce me to covet.

SINCE the bare mentioning Things past, is a Crime not to be forgiven by Persons who have the Power of Revenge in their Hands, I hope I may, without offending, consider Futurity.

#### Nº 18. The TRUE AR TON

I WAS the other Day Reading Lord Back.

Essays, where I find a Prophesy, which, for the

Amusement of my Readers, I will transcribe.

THERE was, says he, a Prophesy before the Year 88, [which I would observe was the Time of the Spanish Armado] which I do not understand.

There shall be feen upon a Day,

Between the Baugh and the May,

The Black Fleet of Norway:

When that is come and gone,

England, build Howses with Lime and Stone;
For after, Wars shall you have none.

Sir Francis Bacon's Effays. P. 100.

MONDAY, AUGUST Y.

Gentles Hall decline to publish the Sund Learn Specific to publish the Charles of them to the Land Country of them to the Land Sunday of them to the Land Specific to the Sunday was fulficient to the Land Specific trees as shared by the was fulficient to the Land Specific trees as shared by the Wash fulficient to the Land Specific trees as shared by the Wash Sulficient to the Land Specific trees as shared by the Ball.

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Mr. REENES, accusinged the



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# TRUE BRITON

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#### NUMB. XIX.

Derween the Hausen and His May

Si mea cum vestris valuissent vota, Peldsgi, Non foret ambiguus tanti certaminis Hæres. Tuque tuis armis, vos te poteremur Achille. OVID

MONDAY, AUGUST 5. 1723.



INCE I find the Two Learned Gentlemen still decline to publish their Speeches at the Opening of the Charge against the Bishop of Rochester, they will permit me to give the Substance

of them to the Publick; by which the World may judge whether the Evidence, even as stated by them, was sufficient, or not, to be the Foundation of such 2 Bill.

Mr. REEVES, acquainted the House of Lords, That he appeared as Counsel for the Bill to la

were Names afed to denote the fame Perishedoon is

Letter wrote from hence, it is mentioned, That BEHE observer That the Billsop made no Defende in the House of Commons, but that the Counsel for the Bill did prove the Allegarions of it to be true to the Satisfaction of that House But that it can't be expected a Person of the Billiop's Character and Capacity, should lay himself open or act impost dently : And therefore, the World might expection find the Treafonable Correspondence he was ingaged in, carried on in Cyphers, Fictitious Names, and Cant Words, making use of another Man's Handdaile, which is mentioned in one of the LettenistyW the Name of the Dog fent over to the hift, w

THAT the Nature of the Evidence against the Bishop is Circumstantial : That there are many Circumstances which could be applyed to no Body but the Bishop. He mentions Three Letters which they would prove to be the Hand-Writing of Mr. Kelly, and which, he fays, they presume were writ by the Order of the Bishop: That they were the Letters of Jones and Wington marked in the Ap. pendix D to, D fr; and the Letter D tz, figned 1378, which was Decyphered to denote the Letter R.

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THAT if they can prove that Jones and Thington mean the Bishop of Rachester, Then that Letter figned 1378 was duly decyphered: That the Bishop had the Gout at the Time mentioned in one of those Letters; and, That his Wife died Six Days after the 20th of April, which explains the melancholy Circumstances of the Family that are hinted

M 2

himed at insthose Letters. 25 Ther Junes and Di

were Names used to denote the fame Person for ins Letter wrote from hence, it is mentioned, That Mrs Jones was deadig and a Detter from About wondoles for the Death of Mes Wington That's Dog was fent to Mrsa Jones Land, That Kelly write an Answer; That Mrs Wington was concerned for the Mistortune of the Dog: And they'll prove the Dog was fent to the Bilhop and his Wife ; Than it will be proper for them to thew when the Bifhon wie in Town or Country, which agrees with the Mention made in forne Letters of Jones or Mingeon being in or out of Town of That the Dogis Name was Hall quin, which is mentioned in one of the Letters tob the Name of the Dog fent over to the Bishop. And for which in that Letter [ Das ] Mis. Thington is

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but the Bilhop. He mentions Three Letters which THAT there were feveral Matters necessary, w be proved relating to Kelly (viz.) That he was well acquainted with the Bishop; That he was frequently with him; That he used to send for him, and et pressed Concern when he failed him; That they will thew Kelly took upon him the Name of Harfel because several Letters went by that Hand.

faid to be in great Tribulation That this Dog had

his Leg broke at the Time mentioned in that Letter.

THAT there were several Papers, taken at the Deanary of Westminster, which will satisfy the House that he was carrying on a private Correspondence: That the Letter [D, 5,] wrote by a Great Lady does plainly prove, the Bishop was approper Person to intrust with Papers of fuch a Nature; That the Letter [D. 7.] from Roan, where he gives him? e M batair!

Direction

Direction to Monfieur Wishart chez Messeurs Arbut bnot & Compaignie à Rouen en Normandie, was a strong Circumstance against him.

THAT the Letter [D. 9.] which comes from Captain Halfteat, he apprehends to be a Material Piece of Evidence; for that Captain Halftead visited the Bishop a little before he went to fetch the late Duke of Ormonde from Spain, and was with him WEARG acquainted the ruoH na syoda

THAT the Letter [D. 6.] to Monfieur Dubois, was of great Importance : That there are Circumstances to prove this Letter was prepared to be fent Abroad, but by some Accident or other, did not go That it was feal'd with the Bishop's Seal, which they will prove, by Engravers, to be the same Seal of the Letter taken upon the Bishop's Servant coming from the Tower: That in this Letter it is mentioned, That Two Months before that, he returned an Answer in the Hand of Mr. Johnson to some Letter he at that neral Conspiracy; and in order to open bayispar amiT

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THAT the Letter taken upon his Servant coming from the Tower, is a plain Intimation of his Guilt; for he does not take any Notice of his Innocence; but fays, Layer, Sample, and Newspe could not affect him; and his not mentioning Kelly, implies a tacit Consent that Kelly, who was then in Custody, could iffect him: That in that Letter the Bishop says, He hopes they won't impeach him; but if the Impeachment goes on, they will then imprison him for some lears without any Remedy; Which Fear shews, hat he was not intirely innocent. fed other People's.

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THAT this Charge was to be supported only be Circumstances.

THAT they had no Witness to produce when he dictated the Letter, nor any Letters under his Hand; But that if these Circumstances could be applied to no other Persons but the Bishop, they would sufficiently support the Allegations of the Bill.

Mr. WEARG acquainted the House, That the other Two Persons who had suffered, were so in considerable and mean, that they would make a Merit of their Conspiring against the whole Government, and would be proud of what they had done But that a Man of the Bishop's Function and Capacity, was to conceal every thing he had done from his best Friends, not only to avoid the Punishment but the Scandal and Ignominy that would be cast up on him for such a Procedure.

THAT they will first proceed to show the 6c neral Conspiracy; and in order to open the Evidence he mentions the Three Letters of Jones, Bligger, and 1378, which, he says, are writ in the same Hand, the same Style, and bear the same Date.

THAT it is manifest, by other Circumstance, that they were wrote by the same Person; for the melancholy Situation of his Family is mentioned a all of them.

THAT the Person who wrote them, was a Mar who had great Opinion of his own Parts, and defor fed other People's.

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THAT it appears Mr. Jones was in Town the 7th of May, and went out of Town the 10th, with an Intention to return the 13th.

THAT Mrs. Jones dyed the Week before the

THAT the Dog called Harlequin, which was fent to Mr. Jones, was defign'd for the Bishop of Rochester.

THAT the Bishop was in and out of Town at the Times above mentioned. Star Charge and that at this time of Day, On the configure of the configuration of the confi

THAT he had the Goat at the Time mention'd that Jones and Illington were in an ill Situation of Health.

THAT it is certain some of these Circumstances might happen to Two Persons at the same Time; but that it was morally impossible they all should.

THAT Halfead's Letter was a material Piece of Evidence.

THAT they will shew Kelly's Intimacy with the Bishop; but that it was not to be expected his Lordship's common Servants should know him.

THAT the Letter to Dabors was sealed with the same Seal of the Letter taken coming from the Tower.

M 4

THAT

writing of that Letter, they would find, the was wrote by the Bishop in a disguised, formal, to disguised.

THAT his Lordship uses three Sorts of En and that in the Word Letters, he uses his common E and another in the Date of the Letter December

THAT they will prove the Letter from the Tower was his Hand-writing.

THAT this Charge was to be proved by Circumstances; and that, at this Time of Day, Circumstantial Evidence must be allowed; and TAHT

THAT Ashten was convicted of High-Treason upon Circumstances only; which, he owned, was before the Treason-Act, panol microsci to TAHT

THAT Harrison was convicted upon Circum stances for the Murder of Dr. Clinch; and one of the principal Circumstances which led to the Discovery of that Murder, was, The pulling a Handkerhies out of his Pocket.

THAT he hoped this Kind of Evidence would be sufficient to support this Bill.

THAT the infine Seal of the infine Seal of the state of t

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the Service of Civil Society.

## A.M.A.W. who is the orghit

# TRUEBRITON

fully and seasonfly XX ve. BiM: UoMiry.

Nec Romula quondam

Ullo se tantum tellus jastabit alumno. VIR

FRIDAY, AUGUSTI 9. Inc. 1723. Inc.



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IW

N my last I gave the Two Speeches of Mr. Reeves and Mr. Wearg, made at the Opening of the Charge against the Bishop of Rochester, that the Publick might see several Passages in them

which they will find mentioned in some other Papers not yet printed, relating to that important Affair.

ISHALL not enter at present on the Consideration of those Discourses, but shall entertain my Reader with my Thoughts on that Glorious Virtue which is commonly called Public was pix friday good I.

THIS

#### 170 The TRUE BRITON.

THIS great Quality to effect that necessary, a Noble Mind, proceeds from a full Way of Mind, ing that we were not born for Outlever, and private Advantage, but for the Good of Others, and the Service of Civil Society.

A MAN who is thoroughly posses'd of Publick Spirit, and is directed by it in all his Actions, need not fear to be honoured by all honest Men whilst he is in this World, and when he is taken out of it, to be ranked in the illustrious List of those who have faithfully and zealously served their Country.

IF we look back into Ages past, we shall find the great Honour which is paid to all those Patriots, who, actuated by this Principle, have lived Defending of, and dy'd Martyrs to LIBERTY. If Envy were ever lawful, it would be raised in the most Generous Breast, when we consider what an Eternity of Fame Heroes have gain'd by losing some few Years of Bondage.

PROVIDENCE permits us to pass some sent tory Moments in this World, and from our Behavior here, our future Happiness or Milery is determined. This Consideration ought to excite us to perform all the Duties required of us by the Divine Laws; and there is no one amongst them more positive, than our doing our Duty to our Neighbour. This Command comprehends serving our Country, and contributing every Thing which we can, as Members of the Constitution under which we are born, to preserve it in its Purity.

WE in this Kingdom are Subjects to Monarchy, and we should exert our utmost Power to keep a just Ballance between the King and People, as the only Means to enjoy Government without Tyranny, and Liberty without Licentionsness, and and add the continues of the only being and the continues of the

THE full Inditution of Kingly Government, speaks the true Intention of those who first submitted to it.

WHEN in the East, as in the Times of Abraham. the Families grew fo large, and the Descendants from them swell'd into Multitudes, he who was the Head of each Family, took upon himself the Directing of it, and thence, as they inhabited Countries, he was filed their King. The first Monarchs, therefore, were properly Parents of their Subjects, and choien. to protect and defend them. All those who ascend the Throne, fliould have this imprinted on their Hearts, and remember, that the lame Obligations lie upon Kings to preferve their People, and defend their Rights, as are by Nature impos & on Fathers to treat their Children with Clemency and Humanity, When they follow these Rules, they must feel the greatest Pleasure, by knowing, that from their Justice and Moderation flows the Happiners of Thoulands: But, on the contrary, when they deviate from them, Greatness and Power must fit heavily on those who are senfible they only enjoy, and not deferve them.

THE Roman Covernment was famous for producing Men of Ariel Adherence to Virtue and Honour, and their History furnishes us with many Instances of Persons

#### 172 ThoTRUE BRITON Nº 20

Persons endow'd with that Publick Spirit which is at present my Themedus one study gain aids at I W that a great of theme Power to keep a blood of the base of the contract of

IN that Period of Time, before Avaries, Comption and Vanity had tainted their Minds, we see Richer despised, when to be purchased by Treachery: We find the Decii Devoting themselves for the Publick Good; and even the Women of those Times incorraging their Children to dye for their Country.

IF some of our Coremporaries had lived then (and better would it be for us if they had) how would they have been esteem'd, who would make Roverty a Crime, and Publick Spirit a Rhrenzy.

THE Method common amongst the Hackney Scriblers of our Days, when they are commanded to traduce the Character of an Honest Man, is, To brand him with having, in the general Calamity, lost some Part of his Fortune; But they do not consider, that he who dares oppose a Court, shews he is contented with what Fortune has given him, and prefers a moderate Estate, and an upright Heart, to an immense Income, and a troubled Conscience. The celebrated Answer of the Old Roman deserves to be recorded, who when the Samnite Ambassadors offer d him an immense Sun to betray his Country, rather chose to live on Rotte in the most humble Manner, than to cat Luxuriously by Sacrificing the Publick Cause.

IN those Times it would have been a Crime of the highest Nature, if a Conful or a Queffor finald have heap'd together wast Loads of Treasure during to soonaful years this as continued wrothis that his

### Nº 20. The TRUE BRITON.

his Administration, and the Senate and People would have sent him to the Tatpeian Rock and being had

THE Great Brutus who stabb'd Cafar, is a Noble Mark of Publick Spirit. Cafar was his Friend, and had served him in many Instances; yet when he trampled on the Laws, the general Good was preferr'd to his private Inclinations; and when he imbrued his Hands in his Blood, it was at the Tyrant, not the Friend, he struck.

IN our own Country, we have had many Great Men, who have been remarkable for their Intrepidity and Firmness, even in the Article of Death, when the Calamity was brought upon them for virtuous Actions.

IN the Reign of Charles I. when the Civil Wars were begun, the Men who took up Arms, did it with an upright Intention to maintain and defend their antient Government. But a Set of wicked, corrupt and baseborn Wretches stept up into Power on their Shoulders.

THEN pour'd in upon us that Torrent of Calamities which spring from the Usurpation of Cromwell. Our King was kept in Banishment; our Laws were made subservient to the Usurper's Pleasure; our Church was destroy'd; Hypocrify was stilled Religion; and the most abject Slavery that ever could be endur'd, was call'd Liberty.

AFTER some Time, the Publick Spirit of our Country shone forth by the Glorious Restoration, which was at length happily accomplished. The

## 174 THE TRUE BRITON. Nº 36

Lord Wharten and Others, who, on Honest Principles, had oppos'd Charles E. joyn'd with Zeal to bring home Charles II. when they faw that there was nothing but general Ruin to be expected from those who were then in Power.

THE Revolution in Eighty Eight, was another Mark of our English Glory; for when King James was perverted by Priests and other wicked Instruments of the Church of Rome, to endeavour the Subversion of all that is dear to us, we made a Glorious Stand in Opposition to his Measures, and establish d King William and Queen Mary on the Throne, to whom we owe the Blessings we at present injoy.

OF all the Princes who have sway'd our British Scepter, none ever deserved more Applause, than that Great King who delivered us at that Juncture, and who deserv'd to wear the Crown which was conterr'd upon him, as a Reward for the great Services he had done to this distress'd Country.

ONE of the greatest Qualities of which he was Master, was, His Desire to act by Himself, and His Scorn of blindly following the Dictates of his Ministers. There is one Instance which I have heard given of his great Impartiality, That when he was preside by Men in Authority to remove that Honest and Great Commander Sir George Rook, from his Imployment, because he had given a Vote in Parliament contrary to the Disposition of the Whig Ministry, the King answered, That it was not the Station of an Admiral to obey his Orders in the House of Commons.

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THE more this Virtue is endeatourld to be supl press'd by wicked Men, when such are in Power, the more it exerts itself-under Oppression, and shines with the greater Force. To she had not of the press endeatourld, to the best sold and shines with guisd the greater force in led in the greater force. To she had not of the lead of the press of the she with a display of the press of the she with a display of the press of the she with a display of the press of the she with a display of the she with the press of the she with a display of the she with the she with

WHOEVER, hereafter, should happen to be the Mark at which the Fury of an inraged Faction should aim, must not suffer his Publick Spirit to be subdued by the Threats and Menaces of his Enemies, but continue to affert his Country's Cause with Intrepidity, and by his Firmpess let the World see, that Honesty is not to be stemm'd in its Course, when it flows in an upright Mind.

THE Examples of Men who have been facrific'd in former Times, ought not to terrify us; neither should the Fate of Russel, Sidney, and others, who were persecuted for bearing too great a Proportion of Publick Spirit, deter Men from pursuing that End and serving that Cause, for which they fell, the Liber ties of Old England.

FOR my Part, I find I grow still more odious to the vile Scriblers of our Age, and, consequently, slatter myself, that the Majority of the Kingdom begins to think I may have some Title to the Character of a TRUEBRITON. I shall say this to my Fellow-Countrymen, That I shall think no Labour lost, nor any Danger too great, when I can contribute the least Particle to their Service, and the Publick Good.

I THINK it proper to declare, That I never had, in any Part of my Life, but one View, which

was, The Defence of the Laws of these Kingdoms. I pursued this End with the greatest Steadings and have ever been of Opinion, That the King's Interest and that of his People, were inseparable. I therefore have endeavour'd, to the best of my Capacity to serve His Majesty with all imaginable Zeal, being thoroughly persuaded, that both his Inclinations and Temper lead him to make us a Happy, Glorious and Free Nation of Additional and Temper lead him to make us a Happy, Glorious and

THIS I have done in the Low Station of Life where Fortune hath plac'd me; and if I had been a Member of either House of Parliament, I should have acted according to the Rules laid down in this and former Papers, without Regard to Party or Private Interest.

dued by the Threats and Menaces of his Enemies, but

hoald the Late of Ruft! THERE are many Examples in my Spanish Manuscript, where Men at the Helmhave alter'd their Behaviour in effential Points; but, indeed, for weights The Great Ferdinando, when he was difoblig'd by the Court for not gratifying his Avarice or Ambition abandon'd the Interest of the King his Master, and join'd with those who were reputed Enemies to the Faction which then prefided. But it being found necoffary to engage him a Second Time in Pay, he made a Second Turn with great Alacrity, and foon after began to accuse others of Unsteadings whilst this Example of his Constancy to his own private Views, was recent in every Man's Memory, Nay, it is farther affured, There were few in the Spanish Cabinet at that Time, who had not changed Opinions many Times, and yet reproached others with

Me 20. The TRUE BRITON. 177 with it, who, some Persons knew, never followed but one Point, nor serv'd but one Cause. Thus might these Men be properly said to point at the Moze in the Eye of their Neighbour, but take no Notice of the Beam which is in their own.

I CAN only say, That had I liv'd in those Days, I would have preferr'd a Man with many Private Faults, to one who had been Guilty of the least Publick Crime.

TXX A W U W

Fifth Migrifiant, Corp. Seeme Nittens 1988 N. S. & C.



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# TRUE BRITON

NUMB. XXI.

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MONDAY, AUGUST 12. 1723.



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HE great Care which the Parliament hath taken for the Publick Welfare, is evident through the whole Course of their Proceedings; but their is no greater Instance of their Zeal, than

the Act which pass'd the last Sessione to oblige the Female Part of this Kingdom to take the Oaths.

OUR wise Administration justly call'd to mind the fatal Instance of a certain Island where the Women murder'd the Men; and therefore, thought it prudent and necessary, for the Security of our happy Establishment, to oblige them to take those Oaths which are the Bulwarks of the Protestant Succession.

THERE

# Nº 21. THE TRUE BRATON. 176

THERE is another Reason which might be of some Weight on this Occasion; which is, That many Great Men are influenced by the Ladies in all Matters whatsoever; and therefore, it is certainly most proper to try their Loyalry in the strictest Manner we can.

I COULD have wish'd the little Ebony Dostor would have thought proper to imploy his Pen at this Juncture, to shew the Nature of Oaths; for the Ladies, I fear, will generally take them without understanding any of them, except the Abjuration, which is conceived in plain and easy Terms. I date say the Bishops will supply his Detect, and will not decline giving any scrupulous Conscience all possible Satisfaction.

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IT is faid, That fince the supposed Riot at Cripple-gate a certain Eminent and Honest Lawyer has represented to his Friends, that it would be proper the Riot-Act should be extended to the Women; and that it should be Felony for Twelve Females to meet together, and not disperse on the Reading of the Proclamation; but it is hoped, that a certain Lady not far from St. James's, will have Interest enough to prevent this Attempt, which would intirely destroy her Assemblee.

WHATEVER secret Methods the Ladies have of concealing their Sex, and creeping into Power, are unknown; yet it is certain, That there has scarce been an Age formerly, but Old Women have see in the Cabinet, as M—rs; in Westminster-Hall, as I—es; and in the H—se of L—sis as B—ps.

N 2

# 180 The TRUE BRITON. Nº 21,

The Little Ebony Doctor at present bears that Chara. eter among the rational Part of Mankind.

IT is to be hop'd such a Number of Persons will conform on this Occasion, as will convince all Europe, That any Attempts to disturb us are vain; and the Ladies Zeal at this Juncture, will, in some Measure, atone for the Death of Cardinal Du Bois.

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FOR fear they should grow familiar with Smearing, and not distinguish between a Legal and sleep Oath, it is said, the Third Commandment will be speedily printed, and given Gratis to all those Women that shall not refuse to comply with the Pleasure of the Parliament.

I AM very much oblig'd to my worthy Friend A. Z. for his Letter, and hope I shall hear more frequently from him.

#### To the TRUE BRITON.

good to his Friends, that it would be present

and we spenduk side

Egregiam vero laudem, & spolia ampla refertis

Tuque puerque tuus.

#### SIR.

I AM affured that I recommend my felf to you, when I confess that I am a Zealous Whig; and that to keep up my Character of being Stanch, I have always thought myself under an Obligation to defend the Actions of my Masters: And though this Principle may have sometimes involved me in seeming Contradictions, yet I never slinched. Accordingly, in the late Queen's Time, I roar'd out for the noble Liberty

### No 21. The TRUB BRITON. 181

of Ressance; and fince her Decease, for the noble Liberty of blind Obedience; In 1719. I congratulated the Nation upon its Prospect of being freed from its Debts by the Wife South-Sea Scheme; And in 1720, I railed at the Directors, and fwore they were all 7acobites: At the Beginning of King GEORGES Reign, I curfed the late Lord Bol e, and the Lord Har t for being Peace Makers; and am now perfectly fond of them for being Plot Demolishers. But above all, I have been remarkably loud in the Defence! of the Proceedings in Parliament, because I look upon That as the Quintessence of my Party; and because no one durft contradict me; for you must know. I have always been thought an Informer. Thus have I behaved my-felf Seven Years, and did defign the fame for Seven-times Seven; But, alas! I find my Refolution begins to stagger at a Bill passed in the last Sessions; by which all the Fair Ladies in Great Britain, that have any Fortunes, and no Husbands, are obliged before the 25th of December next, to take Three fout Oaths of Allegiance, Supremacy, and Abjuration; which Three Words are enough to frighten half the Female World.

what the Ladies have done to draw down the Fury of the Parliament upon them. I once thought the Lord Nithsdale's escaping in Womens Cloaths, might cause this Whig-Aversion to Petticoats; but that is too long ago. Then I recollected, that several of that Sex waited on Bishop Atterbury, to take Leave of Minn before He embarked; but this is too late, for the Swearing Bill passed before he went: Besides, it is very well known, They were more concerned for his

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I AM at a Loss to understand the Policy of this Act; which will certainly exasperate the Sufferer by it against the Government; and, without valous, a Gracious King and a Fine Gentleman would be at least, as desirous of the Assections of his Fenant Subjects as of his Male; Besides, the Number of Not jurers is so very small, that it was impossible to make them considerable without helping them to so great a Reinforcement of Nonjuresses as they will now have

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IT is very amazing that among so many amornes, so many pretty well dressed Noblemen and Gentlemen the Ladies should not have a Party strong cough to support their Interest; nay, not so much as a Prosest enter'd in Favour of them against a Bill, which must necessarily cause more Talk, and more liberill than the Famous Quarentine Act.

UPON farther Thoughts, I am apt to imagine, that the Reason of these Proceedings may be accounted for from the great Hurry of Employ our Representatives have been in about Dr. Atterbuty and Kelly less I Zeal for the Hamover Succession has made them onattentive to the Secret Whisperings of Natural whith every Man of good Sense and good Nature is known to carry about him in Favour of this Beautiful Part of the Creation Bur let the Ladies know for their Comfort, that the General Council of Great Britain does not think itself Infallible in its Determinations; but has been known to have repeal'd an Adamost

Nº 21. The TRUE BRITON. 183 almost as soon as it was made, and before it was put in Execution.

IN Confidence of this, I have drawn up the Form of a Petition to the House of Commons to redress this real Grievance: I defire it may be lest with the Printer of this Paper, for the Ladies to subscribe: which I am persuaded, they will do; and that they will flock to the Parliament-House with as great Unanimity as the Roman Matrons did to the Senate, when they apprehended a Law was enacting to allow each Senator Two Wives.

To the Honourable House of Commons,

continue in Force, we knowled extest

In PARLIAMENT Affembled,

The Humble Petition of all the Rich Unmarry'd Women of Great-Britain;

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fernation to hear that an Ast passed in the last Session, to oblige Your Peritioners to so unusual a Thing as Swearing. We are not sensible, that we have been guilty of any Actions or Expressions that can bring us under a Suspicion of Disloyalty to the Government. We have rais'd and lower'd our Heads, have inlary'd or contrasted our Hoops, have show our Best Cloaths and Airs on Birth Nights and in Drawing-Rooms, in strict Conformity to the present Establishment. We have preserr'd the Love of our Country to that of Fine Cloaths, and, in Obedience to

Par-

# 184 The TRUE BRITON. No 21.

Parliament, have made up our India Damasks and Chinces into Curtains, Quilts and Toylettes, not dering to use 'em even for Under-Petticoats. We have, besides, been so busy of late in adjusting the Count the Sleeve, and other Affairs of great Consequence, that we have had very little Time to inquire into the Pope's Authority, or the Distinctions of Indeseasible Hereditary and Parliamentary Right.

WE are also bumbly of Opinion, That it is not agreeable to Equity to load us with Double Taxes for Disaffection, since Loyalty does not qualify us for the Profits of State-Offices. If, therefore, this Act must continue in Force, we bumbly expect to be impowered by another to send an equal Number of Parliament Women to the House; That one of the Secretaries of State may be of our Sex; and, That we may have the prodigious Pleasure of being admitted into the Secrets of the Privy-Council. Neither can we conceive what Prejudice it could be to the Government, if, in this Time of Peace, we should come in for a Share of the Posts in the Army.

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WE also beg Leave to remind Your Honours, That many Members of this House have often been Petitioners to Us; have slung themselves at our Feet; and with Oanhs and Protestations, have owned, how ready they were to dye for us; and what Power we have over them. We shall therefore have Reason to doubt of the Sincerity of these Expressions, if we cannot succeed in this so reasonable a Request; or, if we have that extensive Power, we may be provok'd to exert it.

IF this Act is calculated with Design to force us to put our Persons and Fortunes into the Hands of Men Nº 21. The TRUE BRITON.

Men that will Sweat, we are refoleed to pluck up on Spirit, and to sucrifice Part of our Riches to our Rethe House know our Resolutions, That, unless Clause be immediately repealed, those Members and are unmarry'd, shall continue so; and those that have Wives, may, perhaps, bear of this, when they would chuse to be asteep.

AFTER ALL, We dare affure Ourselves, That we shall have our Tender Consciences indulged as far as the Quakers were, not long fince; and, That, if we must give the Government any Security for our Affections, it may be by our usual Way of Protesting and Vowing. In a Word, Do any thing to free us from Swearing; there fine telle seeit, gright as n

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And Your Petitioners will ever Pray, &c.

THESE Arguments, affifted by the Moving Eloquence of so many Beautiful Faces, will, I doubt not, prevail: But if not, I hope the P\_\_y-C\_cil will fend out Injunctions to the Bishops and Ministers of every Diocess and Parish, to instruct our Weak Sisters in Casuitry; to teach them to confute Bellar. mine; and to inform Them of the Extent of Faithful and True Allegiance; and whether or no They are obliged by it to wear Swords, and ride affride.

Iam, SIR,

Your Humble Servant, de miero e danigasti ma il 1. A. Z.

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# TRUBB

Nec memoranda tamen vobis mea fasta, Pelasci. Esse reor: vidistis enim. Sua narret Ulosses Que sine teste gerit, quorum nox conscia sola est. And Your Petitioners will

#### FRIDAY, AUGUST 16. 1723.



not, prevailte But if not I hope the ERSECUTION is one of the Prin cipal Methods which Princes purfue, who find they must support themselves by Force, and want the Affections of and Time Allegiduce their Subjects.

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IT is the Misfortune of our Neighbouring Nations to feel, in many Instances, the Weight of this Curse; and formerly this Kingdom has groaned under it; but it is our Happiness at present to be free from all Apprehensions of this Nature, when we consider, that we have a King on the Throne who makes the Laws of the Land the Rules of his Government.

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WHEN Ryil Ministers first begin to find Opportunities of executing their Schemes and granifying their Passions. Corruption is their first Refuge to support themselves in Power and when they have indeavour'd sufficiently to raint the Minds of the People with Bribes and Pensions, but find a Remnant of Bold and Honest Men who detest their Practices, These wicked Politicians determine to persecute such True Patriots, in order to Intimidate those they could not Byass.

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RELIGION is one great Pretence generally taken to justify such Cruelties. The Dragooning in France was esteem'd a wholesome Severity against the poor Protestants; and during the Usurpation of Cromwell, the Members of the Church of England were barbarously treated by the Fanaticks, who committed all violent Acts against them with the sanctified Pretence, that it was done for Rightcousness Sake.

I WOULD only make one Remark on the Non-conformists to our Worship, That they with Justice exclaim against the Inquisition of the Church of Rome, yet whenever they have been the Governing Faction, they have carried their Fury to as great a Degree of Barbarity against their Enemies, as any Cabal ever did; and have ever had a just Toleration when the Church of England's Power has prevail d.

WE may be easy at present, because nothing can give our Enemies the least Colour of saying, that any Subjects who breathe English Air, are deprived of Liberty, or suffer any Hardship whatsoever.

THE

THE Roman Catholicks may avoid their Tares, and injoy quiet Possession of their Estates, whenever they shall please to change their Religion, and abandon the Principles in which they were Educated, and the Nonjurors may have the same Benefit, when they shall think proper to take the Oaths to the King, and abjure the Pretender. Now, can any body be said to be Persecuted, who may avoid it by conforming to the Pleasure of the Parliament?

I AM certain the Tax lately laid on the Papills, must be warranted by the Laws of God and Man, be cause a Majority of the Bishops voted for it, and our Glorious Parliament assented to it.

I T will indeed be a heavy Burthen for these Kingdoms, if ever the private Resentment of a Minister, shall, by the Greatness of his Power, be esteem'd Publick Justice, and if his Pleasure shall direct the Principles of the Governing Party. What Calamities may we not expect, if ever we should see such a Man in Power, who would make Honesty a sufficient Crime, and improbable Invendo's a Legal Evidence!

THERE have been several Scriblers who have endeavour'd, by the Art of Decyphering, and following the new Method of Explaining, to adapt some Characters and Expressions contained in some former Papers to the Great Men of our present Time; and therefore, in order to avoid Censure, I would willing by explain myself on this Head.

BEST THE English Air, are deprived of Li-

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#### Nº 22. The TRUE BRUTON.

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THESE Weetches would induce the World to believe, That by FERDINANDO is meant a Great Person who is now justly plac'd at the Head of Affairs; but I cannot conceive in what manner they would prove this; for Ferdinando is called a Corrupt Evil Minister, which every Body knows can never be apply'd to any Person who discharges his Trust with the greatest Integrity and Fidelity to his Master. Therefore, in that single Instance, they must fail, and all their Malice salls to the Ground. I cannot conceive, that there is the least Parallel between them; for I have not heard the Great Man they mean, accus'd of Corruption, unless it was once, when he was barbay rously treated by a Tory House of Commons.

SIMONI they would decypher to mean another Pillar of our State; but is it possible any Man of common Sense can think it is intended to mean a Man who has never varied in his Adherence to the King and His Family, and always abhorr'd Popery?

A S for CACOFOGO, they have not yet consider'd him; but wait for a further Transcript relating to him; which, in due Time, they may have.

BUT what gives me equal Uneafiness, is, That I have drawn upon myself the Anger of the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen, for having mention'd some Things relating to them. I therefore think sit to declare, That I have the greatest Regard for Sir GERARD CONYERS, Kt. whose Wisdom, Great Abilities, and Ready Wit, on all Occasions, make him an amiable Man to his Friends, and compleat

### 190 The TRUE BRITTON. No 22

pleat the Character of a Fine Gentleman: And Sir WILLIAM THOMPSON, the Recorder, has always shewn such Zeal for his Country, that I must congratulate the City for having such a Servant, and the Kingdom such an Ornament.

BUT what is most grievous, is, That the Bishops are said to be fird with Christian Rage against me for some Expressions in this Spanish Manuscript relating to the Prelates of that Klingdom, which my Enemies would falsely suppose are intended to reflect on them. But I will not believe they can give Attention to such insufficient Evidence; therefore I must hope, that their Anger will be blunted when they have duly considered my Papers.

THE little EBONY DOCTOR is in Wrath at being formetimes nam'd by me; and therefore I must beg of him to be assured, I never should have thought of him, had he not appear'd pretty much in Publick of late, and frightned some few Ladies whose Families had a certain Prospect of being increas'd.

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THE Bishop of TORTOSA is said to be intended for the late Bishop of Rochester: But this cannot be; for the Spanish Prelate was unjustly deprived; and the last was condemned by Parliament.

I HOPE, through the whole Course of this Paper, I have paid that Duty to the KING, as becomes a Faithful and Loyal Subject.

HIS MAJESTY'S Personal Virtues are conspicuous through all his Actions. His Steadiness to his

### Nº 22: TWOTRUE BRETON:

191

his Friends, and his Mercy to his Enemies, are Qualities which must indear him to the most inverterate Foe this Kingdom has; and in this He only can be faid to deferve even more than He enjoys, 31 HT of their Subjects when they have condeffeeded to

IF any of the Villainous Crew who make their Court to their Friends by traducing of me, and mil representing my Actions, should presume to infinuate that I have dar'd, in Thought, Word or Deed, to asperse His Majesty or his Family, I will say, to the Greatest amongst them, That in Loyalty I will have no Superior; but am ready to dve for my KING has ever been) who prefixering alund and rever shall sells to all other Confiderations whatforver, and who

I HOPE Persons will not think, That because I have been wanting in Subservience to fome of our Friends, Infor that Reafon, must be called an End my to the State. I am certain, that there is a wide Difference between the Character of a Flatterer, and the Publick Spirit of a TRUE BRITON, SOT tempts seeinft bins, and Has illustrings Famil

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KING CHARLES II. was famous for his Indulgence to his Subjects on all Occasions; and I have heard one memorable Instance of his Lenity to an Honest Cavalier, who, on his Majesty's Entry into Salisbury, press'd to fee that Prince, whose long Banishment had prov'd so fatal to the whole Kingdom. The King, who was then on his Progress, had some little black Spaniels in the Coach, and warn'd the poor Man not to cling too close to the Door, lest one of those Animals should bite him. But the Loyalist fill perfifted, and at last one of the Spaniels seized him by the Finger; and the poor Fellow, whilst he was in Pain, cried out, with a loud Voice, God bless

192 The TRUE BRITON! No 28.

192 MAJESTA; but G. AD a your

DOGS. from out or mile about from daily a your

THIS proves, That Kings have gain'd the Love of their Subjects when they have condescended to let the People see them, and have permitted those who live under them to judge of their Monarchs, who by their Duty ought to protect and defend their Liberties.

short His Majerty or his Pamily, I will far no the

Prince on the Throne (as His Majesty King George has ever been) who prefers the Interest of His Subjects to all other Considerations whatsoever, and who no otherwise delights in his Foreign Dominions, but as their Interest is consistent with the true and real Service of the Country which he ever must protect and defend.

FOR my Part, I must say, That I think all Attempts against him, and His Illustrious Family, are vain.

WHILST I was writing this Paper, I received a Letter from the Mayor of a Corporation, that was ever Dutiful to His MAJESTY.

SIR,

IHAVE just heard, That a Person who thinks himself ill-treated by the TRUE BRITON, indeavours to shew his Spleen to You, and his Method of oppressing us, is to traduce and vilify every Thing that he imagines can conduce to serve the Old Whig Interest, that has ever prevailed here.

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WE stand upon that Foot, and consequently, whatever savours of Tory Principles, will never prosper here. But we shall ever esteem those Men who despise the Names, and value the Maxims of their Party.

WE know your Destruction is the Aim of a Villainous Set of Men, whose only Consideration is Your Ruin, and whose single View is your End.

WE shall ever serve your Friends in Opposition to them; and my Name you shall hear, when most it ought to be esteemed by you; and then you may own it.

I am, SIR,

Your Humble Servant,

A Correspond

A. B.

P. S. WHEN Cacofogo pretends to disturb us, Notice of his Character shall be given to the Publick in the TRUE BRITON.



THE



THE

# TRUE BRITON.

NUMB. XXIII.

Quid non mortalia pectora cogis

Auri Sacra fames!

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MONDAY, AUGUST 19. 1723.



HE following Letter, written by the Gentleman who subscribes himself A. B. in the TRUE BRITON No VI. having been unhappily mislaid, came but now to my Hands. I hope

the Ingenious Author will excuse this late inserting of it, and favour me with his farther Correspondence.

#### To the TRUE BRITON.

SIR,

THE obliging Manner in which you received my former Letter, has encouraged me to trouble you again. A Correspondence with a Gentleman so heartily

heartily engaged, in his Country's Interest, is highly:

YOU have touch'd upon the great Increase of our National Debts, and have observ'd, that Two visible Causes of it, have been the Mediterranean and Baltick Squadrons.

BUT after all, Sir, what a glorious and happy Way of spending our Money is this, if compar'd with what I have just read in an admir'd Author?

" A STRANGER having publickly faid, that

" he could teach Dionysius the Tyrant of Syracuse, an

" infallible Way to find out and discover all the Con-

" fpiracies which his Subjects should contrive against him; Dionysius hearing of it, caus'd the Man to

\* be brought to him, that he might learn an Art fo

" necessary to his Preservation; and having ask'd

" him, By what Art he might make fuch Discoveries?

" the Fellow made Answer, That he should give him

" a Talent, and afterwards boast that he had obtain'd

" fome mighty Secret from him."

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TO what a miserable Condition were the Syracufian Subjects reduc'd, to have their Treasure lavish'd out in Sham-Contrivances against themselves?

BUT this generally used to be the last Contrivance of such Powers, as were too tyrannical and hated to support themselves by any other means.

NO one can be so Malicious or Weak as to imagine, here is any Reflection intended upon any Gen-O 2 tleman

# 196 The TRUE BRITON. Nº 23.

theman who has the Honour to be intrusted with the Care of the National Revenue. It would be injurious to suppose, that a Censure upon Astrologers, would rested upon Sir Isaac Newton; or a Jest upon Quacks, affront a Mead or a Friend.

AS to the 300 l. indeed, which is faid to have been given to Neyro, with a Promise of 2000 more, if it was true, that may serve for a Warning to all others, How they receive any Money of that kind, since Neyro lost his Life so soon after it.

AS to the Proposal which Mr. Kelly declared to the Lords, was made to him by an Under-Secretary, by Order of his Superior, that casts no Reflection upon the Exchequer, it not appearing that he was to have any Present of the Nation's Money; for the Proposal being general, no one can say, but that it might be some Place, and not any Money, that was intended to be the Reward of his telling Track.

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THE Lady who was deprived of her Liberty on Suspicion of aiding and abetting a Nurse of the Pretender's Child, was not loaded with Irons, nor committed to Newgate: She was only deliver'd over to Buggs in a Messenger's House, and was allowed to speak to her Children thro' a Window, for some Months together. She has since been admitted to Bail, and her Friends hope she will not be try'd for Milk-Treason.

IF any one should be so Fantastical as to suspect that the 200,000 l. which the Bishop of Rochester is said to have received, and the 50,000 l. which an Alder-

### Nº 23. The TRUE BRITON.

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Alderman is reported to have carry'd Abroad, muff, by the Greatness of the Sums, have had Affistance from the Exchequer, I shall only reply to such imaginary Heads, That such conjectural Circumstances cannot be allowed as any Evidence of the Thing, unless they had been declared so, by a Vote of Parliament.

EVERY one's General Character is his best Defence. A Gentleman who has been known to be too honourable to take a Bribe, at a Time when it was very convenient, may very well be supposed to be neither subject to the Power of Money himself, nor inclined to corrupt other People with it.

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BUT after all, the highest and even underiable Evidence of the Integrity of all our Ministers, is, The Exemplary Punishments they have lately set on soot.—Every Bill of Pains and Penalties is to me a plain Proof, that there is neither Bribery, nor Corruption, nor Abuse of Power, nor Breach of Trust, nor any Ill-Conduct that can ever be charg'd upon any of our Ministers. These are a Sort of Death's Head, that must appear at all their Entertainments, and be a constant Memento Mori to them in every Step they take.

NAY, by the Bills that have lately passed, it seems not sufficient for any Minister to be innocent himself, unless all those who are employed with him be so likewise. For if the Corruption and Villainy of any Minister, should raise an Odium against them all, and put them all in one Bill, without suffering any one to excuse or defend himself, such a Bill need go no farther back for an exact Pre-

cedent for fuch Justice in the Lump, than to the South-Sea Directors Act.

make any Hear say Accusation, or other Circumstance, be received as Evidence, is a sufficient Delaration to the Kingdom, that those at the Helm, never intend to be subject to any Hear-say Crime, or to come near the simullest Circumstances of Guilt.

THESE Bills, as they declare the Innocency of the Ministry, so do they give a convincing Proof of the happy Union between the Court and Parliament there having never been seen a more general Concurrence in full Parliament, than on that Occasion.

THE Persons that opposed these Bills, being only such as have neither Places nor Pensions, may be easily supposed to be out of Temper, and through such Resentment not be able to see so clearly as those who, by their favourable Situation, have their Minds more at Ease.

IT is a ridiculous Thing, to suppose, that fusive and Honour are less regarded by those who have Places or Pensions, than those that have them not. On the contrary, we ought to believe those most Just and Honourable, who have received such Marks of Royal Favour; and that it is their Justice and Integrity that have intitled them to such Rewards. As Gentlemen in the Army, have Commissions given, and are made Generals, not to teach them Courage and Bravery, but because they are known to be Brave and Courageous; so Pensions are conferred, not to Bribe.

Nº 23. The TRUE BRITON. 199
Bribe Mon to be Just and Honourable, but because

they are fo of themselves.

THAT this is true, not only appears from the Persons who have Pensions, but also from this, That as soon as they seem but to swerve from the smallest Instances of Truth and Integrity, their Pensions are with-drawn.

SO that though it may have some Appearance of Hardship for a Nation very much in Debt, to tax their Victuals to support Pensions, yet it has this Satisfaction artends it, that we may recken a Number of Pensioners only another. Name for a Number of fast Friends to Truth and Honour.

THE Presender's late Secretary is just arrived in England, where he has both his Estate and Honour to seek; and if, in such a Case, He should be allowed a small Pension for the Encouragement of Integrity, what True Briton would think much of the Expence? Or, suppose his Falseness should intitle him to a Reward, we may be sure, it is such a Falseness, as is as useful as Truth, or else it will not be rewarded.

THAT Gentleman has nothing but an Attainder by Parliament to get off, in Order to be in Statu Quo; and I suppose there is one who can prove it to be the Blackest of Crimes, for any Gentleman to vote against it. —— Hong to hear some Court-Orators set forth this Gentleman's Merit!

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I HAV E but one Argument against the Necessity of Pensions even for the Reward of Virtue, and that

is taken from the Behaviour of the Scotch Mbets, and the English B—ps: The Unanimity of these Gentlemen in all the late Bills, is to me a convincing Argument, That Truth is the same in all Nations, and that People of different Northern Latitude may be equally Lovers of it.

THE Roman Catholick Bill for raising 100,000% upon their Estates, is another Instance of the Equity and Moderation of some Gentlemen: That Bill put the Statesman upon all his Methods, and was carry'd with much Difficulty: If it was any way expensive; if any Part of our National Trade was barter'd away for it; the Money which is to be raised by it, will be some Recompence.

THE Gentleman to whose Care the Passing of that Bill is owing, being too modest to receive Honour himself at present, the Thanks will not be returned for it, 'till it can be done without any Appearance of Flattery.

Your most Obedient Servant, but

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## To the TRUE BRITON.

SIR,

THE Glare in which we of this Age are taught to behold the celebrated Men of Antiquity, does, for the most Part, mislead our Judgments, and render us dim-fighted to the more exalted Perfections of our Cotemporaries,

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IT would therefore, methinks, be an Undertaking worthy a Person of your Character, to draw a kind of Parallel betwixt the Antient Romans and Modern Britons; for though all your judicious and impartial Readers allow the latter to surpass the former in every virtuous Accomplishment, particularly in a disinterested Love of their Country; yet your exhibiting this invaluable Truth to the Publick, would be attended with the happy Consequence of disabusing a vast Majority of your Fellow-Subjects, and thereby doing Justice to our present Set of Governors, whose matchless Endowments have placed them at the Head of Affairs.

AS there is no Room to doubt but (if you enter upon this laudable Work) Justice, Clemency, Moderation, nay, the whole Catalogue of Virtues, will come under your Notice, (because the Omission of any one one of them would be highly injurious to our present Patriots, who seem to have monopolized all that's Great and Praise-worthy; ) so neither do I suppose you will, by any means, overlook the Criminal Side of a Publick Character; for, the exposing those ambitious Romans who extinguished the Liberty they were intrusted to preserve, must needs restect an additional Splendor on such unaspiring Patriots as at this Time grace the British Helm.

YOU are sensible the most dangerous Ingredients that can enter into the Composition of a Legislator or Publick Minister, are, Ambition and Avarice; the one being an insatiable Thirst of Power, and the other an immoderate Desire of accumulating Riches;

But

But as Avarice, when abstracted from Ambition, moves in too low a Sphere to compass the Subversion of a State; so it will (I think) become you to animadvert chiefly upon Ambition, and brand it with a peculiar Mark of your Satire.

UNBOUNDED AMBITION is a meer State of Nature. The Evils that have always flow'd from it, sufficiently evince the Truth of this Affertion. If we examine the whole Scope of the Roman Commonwealth; how amazingly different are the Scapes which occur to our View! In the first Place, we see a Tyranny overturned, and Diberry crecked on its Ruins, by the faithful Champions, or (to use our own Dialect) The Old Whigs of Rome; Next we behold an exquisite Plan of Government handed down to a Race of Sons, who (for a long Succession of Time) not only preserved it firm and unshaken, but like wife improved its Original Strength and Beauty.

THUS did that Glorious State continue to flow rish and diffuse its prosperous Influence, till at length there sprang forth from its own Bowels, a Set of overgrown Monsters, whose infernal Schemes factorised the most daring Attempts of the Tarquing-Those intestine Traytors (at the Time they pretended the greatest Vigilance and Anxiety for the Constitution of their Country) exhausted the Publick Treasure; bribed away the natural Honesty of the People; damped the National Spirit with Military Terrors; and, by an uninterrupted Course of Iniquity, made their infamous Ascent to that Power which sapped all the Foundations of the Roman Happiness.

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THE mean Artifices to which the most tow'ring Ambition stoops, in order to attain its Ends, may serve to convince us from how base an Origin it proceeds. Sometimes it assumes the Mask of Humility, and carries its Hypocrify to a seeming Disregard of Honours. At other Times, it dissembles Gratitude, Generosity, and Friendship, and is almost Deisied under those specious Appearances; when, in Reality, perhaps, its only Method of attracting such false Worship, is by lavishing away part of its Plunder among those mercenary Under-agents who have inlisted themselves in its detestable Service.

BUT of all the Wiles inherent to Ambition. I know none more fordid and contemptible, than that of fending forth those obnoxious Vermin called Informers, who have evermore been look'd upon as the Pest and Bane of Human Society. There have already been fo many ineffectual Attempts made to find out the obscure Rise and Progress of those State Implements, that twere in vain for me to think of tracing them through their many intricate Windings; yet thus far I think one may venture to pronounce upon them, viz. That for present Use, they have a. near Resemblance of Microscopes, inafmuch as they both serve alike to magnify whatever Objects are seen through them. However, I'm fatisfied the Parity will not hold throughout; because Experience tells us, That Informers can, upon Occasion, realize Shadows and Non-Emities; whereas Microscopes can only inlarge Realities. I am. SIR.

Your most Humble Servant,

J. F.

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# TRUE BRITON

#### N U M B. XXIV.

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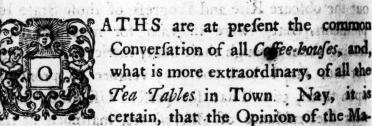
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FRIDAY, AUGUST 23. 1723.



firengthned by a Number of Ladies who have Sworn, that the Pretender hath not, nor of Right ought to have, any Claim to these Crowns; and this Belief, Thanks to Almighty God, is so prevalent here, that no one doubts but that all other Views must end at Tyburn, but such as mean the true and real Interest of our King and Country.

THE Method taken by most Governments to support themselves, is, To become Amiable to the People, and to create such an Esteem for their Leaders
in the Hearts of those who live under them, as must
convince the whole World, that Liberty and Justice
are the natural Ingredients to an Independent Constitution, and a Mild Administration.

by her Countrymen to phinder our Treasury, and be-

conscience of his Councils, and the Honesty of his Ministers.

THE Jacobites have ever been as credulous of their own Strength, as their Enemies seem to be of their Power; But the greatest Reason upon which the former depended, was in the Credit which those Ladies had, who are now forc'd to abandon their Interest by abjuring the Person upon whom their chimerical Hopes depended.

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WOMEN have ever shew'd their Power in this Kingdom, and in the Reign of Charles the IId. Dunkirk was sold to gratify a Foreign Lady, whom the King advanced to the Dignity of a Dutchess. Thus was the Interest of the Crown, and the Good of the People, made subservient to the Smiles and Commands of a mercenary Creature, who was sent over

by her Countrymen to plunder our Treasury, and betray England to the Mercy of her Native Land.

THE unfortunate Prince before mentioned had many Faults; but over-balanced by his Virtues: And the Whigs, who afterwards villainously traduced his Memory, and vented their Malice with their usual Insolence against him, by saying in Parliament and Print, That he died a Papist, were pleased in the subsequent Reign, to accuse his Brother with Poisoning him, because King Charles resuled to serve the Roman Catholick Cause.

THUS may it appear to all impartial Judges, that the Whigs have, in former Times, esteem'd a Man Honest or otherwise, a Protestant or a Papist, a Hero or a Devil, as their Interest persuades 'em: And, in their Opinion, no Man is to be esteem'd a Patriot, but such as can distribute the Plunder of their Country amongst them.

A PERSON who differs with this Set of Creatures, is to be called either a Beggar or a Hero, as he opposes or stoops to a Court: And one thing is to be said of the Tories, That when they oppose an Administration, they act with Honesty; and when they favour a Ministry, they support 'em with Honour. The Death of Queen ANNE left this Kingdom in a more Free and Happy State than her Accession found it; and the Blessings of the Revolution were improved by those that were accused of being Advertaries to it.

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1 SHALL only affure my Readers, That my fincere Wish, is, That if ever we see a Haman, he may meet with the Fate he prepared for the good Mordecai.

THE following Letter is just come to my Hands from my worthy Friend, whose Honesty, I hope, every TRUE BRITON, who reads this Paper, will acknowledge.

#### To the TRUE BRITON.

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THE Roman Catholick Bill, having some small Appearance of Severity, has made many Old Whigs to wish, That it had rather pass'd under some Tory Administration, than at a Time, when we see no Men in Power, but the undoubted Friends of Liberty and Moderation. But these are whimsical People, who don't think it sufficient to have their Friends in Power.

THESE Gentlemen don't confider, that Things take their Qualities from those that do them. If an Enemy strikes, we know he intended Mischief; but if a Parent makes us feel his Blows, and breaks a Limb or two with the Weight of 'em, we know that he defigned our Good, and so should rejoice under his Paternal Care and Tenderness.

THIS is the Light in which Dutiful Subjects, and True Members of a Party, should behold their Friends in Power-

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THE Roman Catholick Non-conformity may be justly said to be purely Religious, there being not an Instance, that I remember, since the Revolution, of any one who has changed his Religion, who has not immediately conformed to the Government. Nay, most of the late Converts have happened to give such Proof of their Affection to our Constitution, as to receive very distinguishing Marks of Royal Favour.

NOW weak Minds may imagine, that therefore there is some Degree of Religious Persecution in this Bill; but with me it is sufficient to consider, that there are no Gentlemen in Power, but what are Friends to Religion, and Enemies to Persecution.

HAD this Bill pass'd at any Time, when the chief Power was in one Head strong, Lawless Minister, who thought himself superior to all Rules; who had no Regard either how he divided his Friends, or increased his Enemies; that hated every thing that was Legal and Regular, and scarce delighted in Gain, except it was Plunder; had this Bill passed in such Times, there would have been some Reason to have disliked it: But as we know the Reverse of all this to be true at present, there is as much Reason for all good Subjects to be free from all Uneasiness under it.

THE more obvious Reasons for this Bill seem to me to be as follow:

I. TO curb and restrain the restless Endeavours of the Papists, to disturb the Peace of the Kingdom.

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FOR John Plunket, whose whole Estate is taken from him, and who was a principal Agent in the late most horrid and dreadful Plot, appears, upon the strictest Examination, to be a Papis.

II. THE Papists being charged as Idolaters, such a Mark as this set upon them, must farisfy all good People, that the Ministry are no way inclined to Idolatry, which must be a great Benefit to the Kingdom.

III. THAT the Papifis may not lie under any worldly Temptation to continue in a Religion fo des flructive of their Souls.

THIS Reason, indeed, seems a little to contradict a late Favour granted to the Quakers, which is such an Encouragement to continue in their Delusion, that if they were to turn Christians, they would forseit their Title to it.

IV. TO enable us to procure better Terms for the Foreign Protestants in Popis Dominions.

V. TO induce all Roman Catholick Princes to be steady and fincere in their Alliances to support the Protestant Succession in England.

VI. TO prevent any more Religious Wars; for the Papists being stript of their Money, will not be able to contribute any Thing towards them.

VII. THAT it may henceforward be a Rule, that all Plots be paid for by a Tax upon some Party, or P Body

Body of the People, that the Nation in general may be frighted at the Return of them.

IT is something particular, that our Protestant Women are to clear themselves from a Share in this Cailvolick Bill, by taking all the Oaths that relate to the Government. The Clemency and Wisdom of the Legislature has taken such Care of our Female Children, that they shall not have these Oaths forc'd upon them, 'till they are arrived at the Maturity of Eighteen. Whether they are to be Confirmed first by the Bishop, or to stay for Confirmation 'till they have seasoned in the Bill.

I DON'T know of any Provision that is made for very Old or Insirm Women. It is a Convenience for such to live where the Parson is a Justice of the Peace, that when he brings the Sacrament to their Beds, he may tender the Oaths along with it.

Exclamations against Creeds and Forms of Faith, as too great Restraints upon the Minds of Protestants.

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BUT, perhaps, to be obliged to Swear, is not for great a Restraint, as to be obliged to Believe.

more than barely Lawful, and that the taking of them must be something like keeping the Commandments or else it would hardly suit with the Temper of our Religion to set whole Families a Swearing all over the Kingdom.

I have heard of General Falls to

# Nº 24. The TRUE BRATON. 209 to implore the Bleffings of God upon a Kingdom? Whether this general Swearing be intended to avert

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any Judgments of Heaven, I can't prefilme to layo V.

Dr. WAKE (now Archbishop of Canterbury) published a Practical Discourse concerning Swearing, in the Year 1696. P. 141. This learned Divine says, it were much to be wished, that the Necessities of Government would permit, that an Oath should never be imposed upon, nor required of, any, but upon some greater Exigence, to be sure, more seldom than now it is.

THIS great Divine condemns the too much Swearing at that Time, though it is to be observed, that there was then no Oath of Abjuration, nor were any Persons oblig'd to take the others, except they were in some Post or Office.

WERE his Grace to write upon the same Subject in some future Time, when Oaths shall be multiplied, he must either alter his Divinity, or carry his Charge much higher, and affirm, as he does in another Place, that because of Swearing, not only Mens Souls suffer, but our very Land itself mourneth.

# THIS Learned Divine goes on thus:

AND when it is required, such Care should be taken in the administring of it, as to raise in Mens Minds a serious Consideration of what they are about, &c. I don't know of any Provision of this kind in the Act, or that there is any Methods prescribed in it to raise Mens Minds to a Religious Reverence of an P. 2

# 210 The TRUE BRITON, No 24

Oath: Nor have I heard that the Bishops, in their several Diocesses, are taking Pains to instruct their Young and Antient Females, in the Sacred Solemn Nature of an Oath, or to prevent their taking these in Rashness.

THE Penalty that attends Recusancy is no great Motive to Confideration and Seriousness; and if Dr. Hoadly, the late Bishop of Bangor, will shew, how People who Swear to save their Estates, can be said to swear in Sincerity, He will do an acceptable Piece of Service to the Female World.

HIS Grace of Canterbury tells us, p. 67. As for those Oaths which are impos'd by the Publick Authority, the Subject's Rule must be, to yield to them, in all Honest and Lawful Matters, and to take such as be can, with a good Conscience, take.

THIS shews us the Error of some People, who disregard what it is to which they Swear, and throw all upon the Legislature, and think that they may swear to any thing that is required by Authority; on as a Lady said, in great Wrath, and great Principle, That she would Swear any thing, rather than any Government should get Six pence by her. — But if Oaths, as this great Divine observes, tho' imposed by Authority, are only to be taken, because they contain Lawful and Honest Matters, and such as are consistent with a good Conscience, as they are at present; How is it, that this Doctrine is not press'd and recommended at this Juncture?

THE Arch Bishop, speaking of Assertory Oaths, saith, p. 15. He forswears himself, who swears to the Truth

### Nº 24. The TRUE BRITON.

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Truth of any Fact, which he either certainly knows to be false, or does not know to be true.— It matters not whether a Man certainly knows what he swears to be false, it is enough that he does not know it to be true. Nay, should it happen to be true, yet if he thought otherwise, and yet swore to the Truth of it, he sorswore himself.—

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THIS Learned Arch-Bishop farther says, "That he who would swear with a good Conscience, must duly consider what he is about to say, and proceed according to the strictest Measures of Truth and Fidelity; and that he forswears himself, if he swears to a Matter as certain, of which he has only a prombable Assurance." Now, if some certain Oaths were to be try'd by this Standard, altho' they might be demonstrable Truths, yet this may not be so clear to all Old Women and Girls, as to need no Explanation; and therefore whoever shall swear to those Truths, without as full Assurance of their being so, as I have, must, according to this Doctrine, forswear themselves.

HOW necessary is it therefore, that all who have any Land in the Kingdom, should now be informed of the Nature of Certainty and Probability; and the Degrees of Knowledge which every one must have of these Matters to which he Swears?

WERE the Laity, Male and Female, Young and Old, to swear, That Episcopacy is of Divine Right, and that the Presbyters have no Authority to Ordain in the Church, I question not but Nineteen in Twenty of a certain Order, would warn the People

P 3

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committed to their Cate, of the Danger of fich Oaths, and tell their tender Females Ten thousand Horrors of Perjury.

THE little Ebony Doctor would have his Conficience awaken'd upon such an Occasion, and exert his Casuistry for the good of Souls. He would plainly prove, That such Oaths would curse the Island, and bring us into the Condition of Sodom and Gomorrha.

T' is not long since I saw the Hands of many of our Reverend Bishops subscrib'd to an Abhorrence of the late Unnatural Rebellion; and that Abhorrence was publish'd thro' the Kingdom.

this Case of Conscience, to instruct the Young and Old that are to swear all over the Kingdom, demonstrating, that it is as safe to abjure the Pretender, as to trust in God, their very Enemies would be forced to own, That they fear'd God, as much as they honour'd the King.

BUT if all Orders of People are to be left to themselves, and neither inform'd how to swear with sull Assurance of the Truth of what they are to affirm, nor exhorted to refuse, till they can swear with such Sasety, I shall only recommend to that Reverend Bench these Words of Scripture: — Son of Man! I have made thee a Watchman unto the House of Israel; therefore hear the Word at my Mouth, and give them Warning from me; When I say unto the Wicked, Thou shalt surely die, and thou givest him not Warning, nor speakest to warn the Wicked from his wicked

Nº 24. The TRUE BRITON. 213 wicked Way, to fame his Life; the same wicked Man shall die in his Inquity; but his Blood will I require at thy Hand!

I HOPE, Sir, that you will think this as fit for your Paper as my former Letters, and believe me to be

YXX

Your most Sincere Admirer,

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all those Cases which relate to the common Dates of

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# TRUE BRITON,

NUMB. XXV.

Omne animi vitium tanto conspectius in se Crimen habet, quanto major qui peccat habetur. JUV.

MONDAY, AUGUST 26. 1723.

## To the TRUE BRITON.

SIR.



T is generally agreed, that we ought to regulate our Opinions of Men by the Conformity of their Behaviour to the Rules of Moral Virtue; Rules fufficiently obvious to all Perf ns, who

will confider them with Attention; and especially in all those Cases which relate to the common Duties of Social Life.

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THERE have been Persons in the World who have been highly caressed, and, to outward Appearance at least, esteemed, who yet, whether considered in their Private or their more Publick Capacity, have not acted conformably to the Moral Obligations they are under, on either Account; but, as it seems, in a direct and determined Opposition to them.

OTHER Reasons may be assigned for the irregular and corrupt Judgment of the World in Favour of such Persons; but I shall specify one, which at present occurs to my Thoughts, and is, perhaps, among other Causes of Popular Error, the most general and prevalent. I mean, The Instruence of ill Example, when wicked Men have found means to establish themselves in Power, and to create numerous Dependencies.

THE Pomp and Splendor of their Condition; the visible Homage that is every where paid to them, the Obsequiousness wherewith Persons both of Superior Understanding and Quality are often observed to approach them, do so dazle and confound People of weak Minds, that they can see nothing, during such Preposessions, in a true Light. Even they who are more capable of distinguishing Real from Counterfeit Merit, yet, to favour their own Indolence, and to avoid the Pain and Trouble of Atsention, chuse rather implicitely to sollow the Multitude, and to take up with common Appearances of Things, than to examine them by the Test and Evidence of Reason.

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AND even where the Wickedness of Great Men is too notorious to be desired or diffembled, Reasons of

# 216 The TRUE BRITON. No 25

Interest and Dependance, will, notwithstanding, so far blind the Eyes, and corrupt the Hearts of Men, as to turnish a thousand Pretences, such as they are, if not to justify their Misconduct, at least to pulliate and excuse it; by attributing their Measures to extraor, dinary Exigencies of State; sometimes to Causes which never subsisted; at other times, to remote Prospects of suure Dangers.

WHIR Restons may be silly

UPON these Grounds we discover why it so frequently happens, that neither Persons nor Things are called by their right Names; why in High and Low Life, we appropriate very different Characters to Men, and treat them after a very different Manner who yet act upon the same vicious and dishonest Motives; why in some Parts of the World, one Man charged for a single Robbery on the Highway, committed, perhaps, for a Trifle, or the mere Relief of his Necessities, shall be executed; whilst another, who has inriched himself by continual Depredations, for a Course of some Years, at the Expence of his Country, shall not only escape with Impunity, but, by a service Herd of Flatterers and Sycophants, have all his Actions crowned with Applause.

THIS puts me in Mind of an Excellent Saying of a Pyrate to Alexander the Great, as mentioned by Sir Roger L'Estrange, in his Fables and Stories Moralized

THAT great Prince 'demanding of a Corfaire,
that he had taken Prisoner (to use that celebrated

Writer's own Words) How he durst presume to four the Seas at that infolent Rate? Why, truly,

Lays he, I scour the Seas for my Profit and my Plea-

# Nº 25. The TRUE BRITON. 217

fure, just as you scour the World: Only I am to be a Rogue for doing it with One Galley; and You must be a mighty Prince, for sooth, for doing the same Thing with an Army. Alexander was so pleas'd with the Bravery of the Man, that he immediately gave him his Liberty.'

THIS Story that excellent Mythologist Moralizes as follows. Power, fays he, is no Privilege for Violence: It may create fome Sort of Security in the Execution; but it gives no Manner of Right to the Committing of it: For Oppression and Injustice are the very same Thing in an Emperor, that they are in a Pirate. This, continues Sir Roger, was brave-' ly faid of the Corfaire, and it was as bravely done of Alexander; but whother it wrought upon his Con-Gience or his Honour, may be a Question; that is to say, Whether he was more moved with the Rea-' son of the Thing, or with the Courage of the Man. But it looks well, however, either way; for Alexander not only forgave the Affront of being made the greater Thief of the Two, but gave the poor Fellow his Freedom over and above. And we have likewise this Document left us for our Instruction; 'That in all Fortunes and Extremes, a Great Soul will never want Matter to work upon.

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Your most Humble Servant,

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# 218 The TRUE BRITON. No 25.

### To the TRUE BRITON.

Non bene conducti venduit perjuria testes. OVID.

SIR,

THE Subject of your Paper, so well becomes its Title, that it is justly valued by every True Briton; for what can distinguish him more truly than a Publick Spirit? And how can a Writer better shew it, than in declaiming against, and exposing Publick Vice, and recommending Publick Virtue?

AS this seems to be the Honest Aim of all your Papers, I have wonder'd from what Motives the Malice of your Adversaries springs, having not found one of them who would point any particular Error, but in a general and scurrilous Manner, endeavour to decry the Whole.

BUT the greatest Missortune your Paper lies under, is, an obstinate Notion, that you are prejudiced against some Great Men, and design to expose them; this makes it impossible for you to paint a Character, be it never so vile, or expose a Vice never so odious, but these Men, through an unmannerly Zeal to their Patrons, impute it as designed for them; and so compliment their Masters for the Original from which you copyed your Paper. Thus while they, by their own strange wrested Applications, compose the Satyr, and ridicule their Benefactors, they most unjustly and salsely accuse you for the Libel.

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SIR, ASI think fuch Scriblers not worth mine, much less your Concern, so neither will I aim at giving your Papers their just Praises: Those that read them know their Worth, and deservedly approve them: I would only beg you will be pleased in some one of your Papers to expose a Crime, which though it cannot affect the Government itself, yet it does very much hinder the distributive Justice of it; and that is PER-JURY or False or Corrupt Evidence in our Courts of Record.

WHERE can injured Innocence fly, but to Justice? and how can Justice be administred, when Judgment is mifguided and corrupted by Perjury? Evidence is the clear Eye of Justice, by which she discerns: the Rule she acts by, and the Guide which directs her; Evidence is the Poleflar that steers her thro' the most mazy and rugged Courses; and, in short, is the Soul that animates and directs her Motions; Therefore, whenever False Evidence rules her Decrees, they must necessarily, and in Spite of the Endeavours of the most upright Judges, be cruel, unjust and barbarous; then it is, the Guilty is acquitted with Applause, and the Innocent punished with Shame; the Villain triumphs in his Wickedness, and the Honest Man is depressed with a Load of Infamy and Guilt.

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PERJURERS, and fuch as procure and fuborn them, are certainly the most reprobate of Men. All Mankind should avoid the least Commerce with them, as of Persons infected: There is nothing Base they cannot undertake, and, what is worfe, but what they will undertake, to fatiate their Malice or pro-

# 220 The TRUE BRITON, No 24

mote their Interest, or that of their Imployers: I would therefore beg this detestable Vice may be the Subject of your Masterly Satire. And you will much oblige,

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Your Obedient Humble Servant,

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### The Fell VXX B. M. U. M. of the State of the

Ergo ubi prava Stultitia, bic summa est insania: qui sceleratus, Bt furiofus erit.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 30. 1723.

To the Author of the TRUE BRITON.

SIR,



litt.

HE following General Reflections which occurr'd to me on Reading the Rise and Fall of several Court Favourites, as the Spencers, Gaveston, &c. in our former English Reigns,

von Excise from my Frederick, 2014 aires

may not perhaps be unacceptable to many of your Réaders. in the World, the Augustus's, and the

I THINK it unnecessary to assure you, as I can do with the utmost Sincerity, that no living Chara-

## 222 The TRUE BRITON, No 26

Eters are or can be here pointed at ; and if the vile Scriblers who fubfift by attacking your Paper, and whose Mushroom-Performances must fink into everlasting Oblivion whenever you cease to write thall think fit to compliment any of their Patrons with an Application, I hope their unmannerly Zeal will meet with fuch a Repulse, as Sir Charles Duncombe, when he was Lord Mayor, gave to a certain bufy Fellow, who, expecting Thanks for his Pains, officionaly brought him the most scurrilous Invective that ever was written against a Publick Magistrate. My Lord, fays the Fellow, here is a Puper that treats your Lordship's Character with the most abominable Freedom. The vile Author represents you as sprung from a Dunghill, and that all your Riches and Grandeur are the Product of the most Villainous Cheats and Baseness that ever were practifed. The wife Magistrate, with fuitable Indignation, answer'd, Dare you, Sir, bave the Impudence to affert, that so vile a Character was drawn for me? I know not in Life the Man that these Garments will fit. 'Tis you, who presume to apply them to me, that make the Reflections; and I charge you begone from my Presence, and never see me more.

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SIR,

TIS undoubtedly a Truth, that KINGS cannot Reign without Ministers of State; and 'tis no less certain, that they do not, or cannot Live without Favourites. The Wisest Princes heretofore in the World, the Augustus's, and the Antonime's; the Constantine's, and Theodosius's, if they should revive, would once again, as well as formerly, give Testimonies of human Affection, and might with Reason

Reason love one Man (cæteris paribus) rather than another; for Virtue is not fo authere and favage as to destroy Nature; nor do Politicks oblige a Prince to divest himself of Humanity: His Motions need only be Just and Well-regulated.

LET him fhew his Bounty and his Kindness to particular Persons; let him enjoy his Diversions, his Complacencies, and his Friendships, and his Estimations too, but still it were to be wish'd he would observe a Proportion and Mcasure in the Distribution of his Favours

LET him not bestow Preferments, the proper Dowry of Virtue, on worthless Persons: Neither let him impoverish the Publick to make one Man unmeasurably Rich. Let that Man who is the Prince's Favourite or Confidant (the Dictates both of Religion and Reason allow it) be like the Sun, which more particularly darts down his Beams; but let there not be any who Day and Night befieges his King; by so doing he appropriates the Monarch to himself, and retains him as it were by a violent Usurpation, the most horrible Monopoly in Nature: Thus Impaling a Good which ought to belong to the Publick, he attempts the same Injustice, as if he hid the Sun from all the World.

THERE is nothing that recommends a Prince's Judgment, or that is of more Importance to his Safety, than a discreet Choice of his Ministers. A Man cannot steer a Vessel, nor guide a Chariot, nor manage a Horse, without previous Address and Method: And shall these who are to direct Mankind, jump

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into Employ without any preparatory Discipline We come to the Knowledge of Affairs, and the Denterity of ordering them, by Experience and Reafon, A Place of high Station, does not prefently make a Man wifer than he was before; not are we to expect Revelations, nor think that Heaven is obliged to endue a Prince's Ministers with the Spirit of Well: Governing, and render his precipitate Election valid and un uccessful by a fudden Illumination. Courtless are the Matter, and the Prince the Artift, who can eafily render this Matter fairer, but not better than it is: He can add to it Colours and Shape on the Outside, but cannot give it any interior Goodness. He can bestow the Office, and the Title, but he cannot order Qualifications; fuch are, The Knowledge of Things patt; the Penetration into Things to come; That Light which difembroils the Intrigues of Courts: The Science of making War; and the Dexterity of treating for a Peace. In a Word, He may make an Idol, but he can neither make a Spirit of it; nor an able Man. and suggested a tolk of the vest odd with of

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YET even in Christendom such Idols have been seen. There have been always, and in all Governments, some unworthy Persons exalted to Grandeur; For it has often happened, that such an Authority has been evident in Princes, as has been both Blind and Dumb; which neither Knows nor Understands; which Appears only, and Dazles: Pure, refin'd Authority, one may call it; for it has not any Mixture, either of Virtue or Reason.

THERE have been Grandees only remarkable by their Greatness, and their Greatness has been all without

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without them; They resemble certain Fruitless Mouns tains in some Parts of the World, which I have been in, which produce neither Herb nor Plants: They feem to touch Heaven with their stately Tops, yet ferve the Earth for no manner of Use or Benefit at all; Therefore their Sterility makes their Height accurs'd.

PRINCES therefore should make strict Enquiry into the Abilities and Virtues of those whom they imploy: They should not suffer themselves to be led by Occasion, but take for their Instruments such as are able; not fuch as stand next, or first offer themfelves; wherein too, they should regard not only a general Sufficiency, but a particular Fitness for difcharging those Employs in which they place them.

NOR should a Prince thrust Persons into his Council merely because their Conversation is grateful to him. We ought to make a Difference between Persons that Delight us, and those that are Profitable to us; betwixt the Recreations of the Mind, and the Necessities of the State: And if a Prince takes not special Care in this Examen, he may commit irremedi. able Errors, and fuch, perhaps, whereby he may render not only his own Reign miserable, but also his Memory reproach'd in Ages to come. He therefore ought not to follow his own private Affections or Inclinations, but abandon all Capricio's and Fancies in this Matter. Let him in other Things sport and divert himself as he pleases, but in the Choice of such high Concerns, he must use the Severity of his Judgment, and at first bring with him an Indifference of Will; it ought to be a pure Operation of Reason, freed and devoid of Love and Hate: For the Mischiefs arifing

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arising from ill Ministers, are no less faral, than various: If they are Ignorant, they ruine the State their Master, and Themselves, by their Weakness If they are False and Treacherous, they fer the Publick to Sale, and betray its Interest: If they are Men of ill Principles, they blow up their Prince to Vanity by Flattery, and banish Truth from the Palace; They rob their Master of his Noblest and most Stable Throne, Viz. The Hearts of his Subjects, by creating Fears, and mutual Jealoufies between them. and whilst with vain Pretences and Endeavours, no less impracticable than unjust, such Men would seem to make the Prince more Absolute than his Foretathers their Measures naturally tend to render him less Confiderable at Home, and confequently less Reverd Abroad, than any of his Ancestors: They manage Affairs according to their private Fancies; and having committed fuch Extravagancies as make them liable to Justice, the rest of their Life is spent, not to consult their Master's Advantage, but their own Safery, and they make his Interest stoop to their Conveniencies.

WHAT care such Ministers how much the People are provok'd? They had rather that their whole Country should be involved in all the Miseries and Desolations of a Civil War, or be made a Prey to a Foreign Invader, than that they themselves should be brought to an Account before an Impartial Tribunal, for, in the first Case, they hope to thist among the Croud, but in the Second, can expect nothing but cartain Ruine; for their Conscious Fears presaging what will happen, they know well enough, that the Ills which they have done, must be defended with greater; and if the Law lives, that they must dye.

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WHEREFORE, fince such great Mischiefs naturally attend the Conduct of Evil Ministers, in whatsoever Countries they happen to preside, as the
Histories of all Nations and Ages sufficiently evince,
it might well be wish'd, That this, or the like Prayer,
were added to all the Publick Litanies of Christians,
Viz. 'Lord! turn away from all other States an
'Evil which is the Cause of so many other Evils,
'Deny not Sovereign Princes that Spirit of Conduct,
'which is sit for them to govern by! Give them
'Understanding enough to Counsel themselves well,
'and to chuse their Counsellors as they ought.'

TO conclude; As the first Advances of Evil Ministers have been commonly base and shameful, their Progress wicked and destructive, their short Continuances attended with Hazards and Anxieties, so their Eclipses have ever been most satal, and their Falls desperate. They are generally surprized with Ruine, and their Deseat is like that of Forlorn Troops, which are cut in Pieces before they can rally, or be re-inforc'd.

PRIVATE Men oftentimes fall on their Legs, and find Friends to relieve, or at least to commiserate them; And Bankrupt Merchants are daily seen to rise again like *Phænixes* out of their own Dust. But with Courtiers and Statesmen, there are no Degrees of Missortune; those Ladders which they clamber'd up with so much Sweat, Address, and Difficulty, upon the smallest Failure of their ascending higher, serve but to render their Falls more precipitate; and when they are hurl'd down from all their exalted Glories, 'tis their chiefest Comfort, if they do not survive their Destiny, nor live to see their Families buried in

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their Ruins. Then, alas! too late, have fuch Ministers found themselves forsaken of all those Alliances, which they had with formuch Subtlety contracted, wainly image gining to have laid a Foundation of everlatting Great ness. Then have their Cobweb Policies been inflantly unravell'd; for no fooner have they begun to decline, but their most obliged Creatures have shunn'd them most, and, like Haman's Wife, been the first Hat bingers of their Destruction. Those that were raised by their Countenance, not daring to own any Love or Honour to their Persons, lest They too should be involv'd in their Ruin, by being merely suspected acceffary to their Crimes, are the first that desert them: Nay, their own Servants conclude it but Justice, as well as Prudence, to expose their Faults. Their Enemies triumph over 'em, and even their Friends think it Charity enough to afford them an infulting Pity; and the People, who with Reason universally hated and feared them before, are now privileg'd to treat them with the greatest Contumely. Nay, the Prince him felf, in whose Service perhaps they wounded their Consciences, and for whose Pleasure they now bleed, hoping by their Downfall to gratify Many, and please All, gives them up as a Propitiatory Sacrifice to the inrag d Multitude, and becomes as inexorable to their Petitions, as they had been formerly to the more just Requests of others in Distress.

IN fine, having long fince forfeited their Innocency (the fweet Retreat of oppressed Virtue) they at last find no Sanctuary sufficient to protect them, but are hurry'd out of the World loaded with Guilt and Shame, and follow'd with the Executions of all Mankind!

I am, Yours,

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# TRUE BRITON.

### N U M B. XXVII.

- Sive ego prave,

Seu recte, hoc volui, ne sis patruus mihi. HOR.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2. 1723.

To the Author of the TRUE BRITON.

SIR,



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EADING the other Day some of Matchiavel's Tracts; I was not a little pleas'd to see him very justly display his most excellent Talent, in reviling those Ear-Whigs to Kings and Princes,

call'd Court Favourites. I remark'd fome of his Quotations; and, as well as I could Translate them, I now inclose them to You, believing they will not be unacceptable to many of your Readers.

mahamaki sinis isle in haa . .

He that stands by, says that great Politician, and observes the supple Addresses, and seculous Applications of Courtiers; How greedily Men reputed Wise, sell their Liberties, and sacrifice their Time; With what Patience they undergo Attendance more grievous than the Toil of Gally Slaves, or Popish Pilgrimages; he will be ready to imagine, that it must needs be some wondrous Mystery which deserves such Superstition: Nor can he surely expect to obtain less than the Philosopher's Stone, when he sees so many Furnaces set on Work, and such rare Alchymists ingag'd.

IF he casts but a superficial Eye on the losty Flights of the Favourites of Princes, he sees how, in Effect, they manage all the Reins of Government, though their Masters sit in the Saddle; how they give Laws to the People by recommending Judges; nay, and biass Religion itself, by bestowing Ecclesiastical Dignities, and the Fattest Benefices, and make even the Bravest of Soldiers, kiss, as it were, their very Feet, seeing that they can neither get nor hold any Command of Honour or Profit, but by and through their good Graces.

HE that remarks all this, and also observes, how their seeming Virtues, and perhaps but imaginary Abilities, are magnified, and multiply'd, and even their Errors with Veneration conceal'd, extenuated of justified; and with what Ease they trample upon their Adversaries, and prefer their Dependants; How can he refrain from Drawing at such a Lottery which is

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fo tempting and plaufible? Or how can he escape those delicious Charms, which would almost delude a Stoick to mistake such a Fortune for his Summum Bonum?

BUT, alas these are only Out-fides to amuse the Ignorant; these stately Escurcheons serve but to hide a dead Corpfe, and thefe excellent Odors are only to perfume a Sepulchre. The Factions wherewith every Court or State is continually pregnant; the Envy and Emulation, which, tho' not fo loud, is yet perhaps fiercer than open War; the Spies which, like Eunuchs, in Turky, are there fet upon all Mens Actions, and the flippery Path on which they walk; the keen and pestilent Slanders, against which Innocency itself is scarce Armour-proof: These, and a Thousand other Inconveniencies, are not prefently discovered; and indeed, 'tis perhaps fit they should be concealed, lest otherwise Men of Sense and Integrity should avoid Courts and Palaces, as Persons in Debt do Prisons. and dread Greatness like Infection.

AND this would yet be more apprehended, if they could have either the Prudence or Leisure to reflect, How many Persons, that, in a private Station, were Honest, Just, and Resolute Patriots, when once preferr'd to the Missortume of being Great, have then abandon'd all Thoughts of the Publick Weal: Their Integrity must now retire to give place to their new-acquir'd Fortune; and their too rank Preferment stifles their Honesty; so that ever after, as Courtiers, they must aim only to advance their own narrow Interest, and blow up some short liv'd Sparks to warm their private Fingers out of the publick Ashes of their Ruin'd Country.

THEIR

THE IR Innocency upon their Englishing lasts scarce so long as the siest Man's did in the Terrestrial Paradise: And though they were not wicked before, yet they believe their Wickedness may be dispensed with in this Station; and therefore, as the Foolish Wise Man of Old, slung all his Goods into the Sea, that he might more freely philosophize, so they resolve to rid themselves of their Consciences, that with less incumbrance they may manage the Affairs of State.

TO avoid Contempt, not being able to render themselves respected, they study to make themselves sear'd. They believe, that there is no Way lest to blot out the Memory of their former Condition, but by the exorbitant Exercise of their Power; and that they shall not hinder the People from Laughing at their Infirmities, but by imploying them to Weep for their own Mileries.

ONE wou'd think it the highest Degree of Folly, that Men not unacquainted with History, and sufficiently warn'd by Experience of their own Times, should adventure on the very same Precipices, which prov'd so fatal to all that went before them. But we must remember, that Ambition is as blind as Love: They, like the samous fond Astronomer, are gazing at Stars, 'till they turnble into the Ditch; their Eyes are fix'd on the Glittering Vanities Above, suggested by a deluded Imagination; so that they never look down on the Wrecks, and shatter'd Fortunes, and dissember'd Bodies, and Infamous Memories of their Predecessors. For sew or none have the Wisdom to foresee, how

how hard it is in Greatness to pursue Honest and Safe Maxims; what Resolution is required for the Potent to be Innocent; what sordid Interests they are forced to espouse; and by what insensible Degrees they are brought at last to follow those Actions and Compliances, without Reluctancy, which at first they look dupon with Detestation.

WHAT long once was observed of Sejanus, holds true of many later Tympanies of Grandeur; That their Favour is not to be purchas'd without some notable Crime! You must part with your Honour, nay, your Soul, if you expect Promotion from such Spirits. If this were sufficiently weighed, we may justly presume, that such as have a strict Regard to Honesty, wou'd not precipitate themselves into Publick Affairs, and stand gaping, like greedy Camelions, to be puff'd up with the tainted Air of Haughty and Luxurious Courts, where Interest can scarcely be preserved (unless by Miracle) without a Shipwreck of Conscience.

BUT to make our Approaches a little nearer; It it be so ticklish a Thing, for even a good Man to abide long in Honour, without becoming like the Beast that perisheth, and acting Dishonourable Things; What then shall we say of those Portentous Meteors, which sometimes blaze in that Superior Orb, and, like noxious Exhalations drawn up by the Wanton Beams of Favour from the Slime and Filth of the World, presage more Calamities than a Comer to those Nations in which they appear?

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# 234 The TRUE BRITON. Nº 27

INSOLENT Giants! That combat, with difplay'd Colours, the Authority of Fundamental Laws, and all Methods of Justice! Who, in the Government of a State, produce Defigns form'd for its Ruin, and fatten upon the Vitals of exhausted Provinces!

PRINCES and Great Men are born oft-times with excellent Qualities, and are, like Calm and Halcyon Seas, fill'd with Riches and Power, that might do good to all the World, if the Winds would but let them flow gently according to their own Nature. But, as extraordinary Beauties are courted by Variety of Lovers, fo fuch exalted Conditions rarely want a Swarm of Flatterers, (mere Infects! bred out of Putrefaction by the Warmth of Royal Sun. shine!) that, under the Umbrage of Adorers, make them felves Masters, and, by a Colour of true Service, exercise an Empire even over those that think they command the Universe; whose facred Names in such a Case, become but a Passport to Mischiefs; and their Authority a Sanctuary to Crimes; nay, their Revenues and Incomes, are but Tinder to Debauchery, and Supplies to Riot; their Power an Inftrument of Revenge, and a Scourge and Terror to those very People whom it ought to cherish and protect,

WHAT shall we say of those insufferable Grandees, who wreak their private Spleens, with the Hands and Arms of their Masters? Who esteem Criminal all those that do not fall prostrate before them? Who, by abandoning the True Interest of their Country, and playing the Mountebank with the Body Politick (till they cast it at once either into a Fever,

Nº 27. The TRUB BRITON.

235

or a Consumption) would gladly precipitate the honester fort of Men into the most desperate Meafures, that so they may the bester palliate their own Exorbitancies by the forc'd Disobedience of others?

IN a Word, Tho' wise Antiquity allow'd no Entrance into the Temple of Honour, but thro' that of Virtue, yet such as these croud themselves into Favour and Credit by quite contrary Recommendations and Pursuits, and make their Vices the only Rondels, whereby they mount the Ladder of towring Preserment.

Iam, SIR,

Com. Ner. Dica.

Tours, &c.

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# TRUE BRITON.

### NUMB. XXVIII.

Ille autem adversario remoto, licentius eorum bona, quos sciebat adversus se sensisse, militibus dispertivit. Quibus divisis, cum quotidiani maximi serent sumtus, celeriter pecunia deesse capit; neque quo manus porrigeret, suppetebat, nisi in amicorum possessiones. Id ejusmodi erat, ut, cum milites reconciliasset, amitteret optimates.

Corn. Nep. Dion.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6. 1723.

### To the TRUE BRITON.

SIR,



HE Two great Effentials requisite for the well-ordering of Society, are, To be allowed the full Extent of our Liberties, and, To be protected in our respective Properties.

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AS for Liberty, it cannot be bought at too great a Rate; Life itself is well imployed, when 'tis hazarded for Liberty; nor can any Thing be too Dear Dear when Freedom is the Parchafe. These were evidently the Sentiments of the admired Romans; and that nothing was more valued than Freedom by this great People, is manifest from this 3. That the their Laws permitted Parents to take away their Childrens Lives, yet would they not suffer them to do any Act whereby those Children might be deprived of their Liberty. Libertari a majoribus tantum impensum est, says one, ut patribus, quibus jus vite in liberos, necisque potestas olim erat permissa, libertatem eripere non liceret.

AS for Property, it is so interwoven with Liberty, that whenever we sperceive the latter weakened, the former cannot fail of being impaired in the latter weakened, the

THOSE Nations who formerly either lavished away their Liberties through their own Folly, or that lost them through the Treachery of others, soon found their Properties as precarious in the Hands of Sycophants, as their Liberties were desperate in the Hands of Tyrants.

'TIS no easy Matter to persuade the Multitude their Liberties are in Danger, when their Properties are secured; but whenever they have been shewn. That their Properties have been not only render'd precarious, but even subject to the Caprice or Freak of every Narrow Soul Dependant, it is impossible but Uneasiness and Heart-burnings should then ensue.

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'tis too )ear IT is owing to the fingular Mercy of Almighty God, that amidst the Rage of Parties, and the various

Revolutions in the Ministries of our late Princes. when each Party, as they have gained the Afcendant, have oppressed the other; that, I say, in all those Shocks, our Constitution and Liberties have been hitherto fo well preserved: But still it must be confefs'd, that, next to that good Providence, we have been more obliged to the Excellency and Moderation of our Two last Princes, than to any Forecast or Publick Spirit of our Com-patriots. For whoever confiders the Violence of Party-Rage, and the many Tryals and Attainders that have been profecuted with the most partial Fury, by Whigs and Tories against each other in their Turns, must needs find Reason to applaud our late Sovereigns, for having less at Heart the Aggrandizing their own Power, than preferving the Liberties of their Subjects; or it would have been no difficult Task, to have play'd one Party against the other, 'till the Constitution had been intirely destroy'd. iod them thiosoph the descript mid hor

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WE are at present equally secure in our Liberties and Properties; no pretended Power is set up, no Incroachments are made on our Constitution. We enjoy our Parliaments in Freedom: Parliaments whose Power is as extensive as we can wish; Our Properties are all guided by the strictest Rules of our Laws; and we can measure more Happiness with our Eye, than any other Nation can form a View of in the greatest Extent of their Fancy.

B U T notwithstanding this Happy Situation and Prospect, if we Englishmen do but look into History, we shall there find abundant Reason to confirm the Truth of the above Observation, and that our Party-Tryals

### The TRUE BRITON. Nº 28.

239 Tryals have generally been too fatal Examples of Rage, Cruelty, and Partiality: And if ever we should have the Misfortune, in some future Time, to fall into violent Hands, we shall, perhaps, have Cause to regret some certain Precedents, and shall find, that every other Law, either in a Civil or Criminal Case, will be interpreted according to their Intention, and even strained beyond their natural Import, to answer the Views of designing Men.

FOR if ever Litigants should gain their Points according to what Interest is made to Great Men, and that the bare Mention of one of the Parties to the Suit's being averse to People in Power, be enough to obtain a Caule, it must certainly be attended with bad Consequences for the present; but with Regard to Futurity, must furnish Examples of the most pernicious and fatal Tendency. Indeed, were People to be told, They must obey, each Party, in its Turn, would know what to trust to; But if ever Injustice should put on the Dress of Probity, the poor People would be taught to pay Respect to the Shadow, and neglect the Substance. How happy are we, when we can really fay, at present, we are Strangers to all this! And 'sis hop'd the same Happiness will be transmitted to late Posterity.

SOME People have imagined from the vast Tyde of Business that flows daily into the Chancery, that the Meum and Tuum of the Nation may be, fafely intrusted to the arbitrary Determination of one And this immediately directs us to admire that consummate and superior Genius, that invincible Force of Reason, that steady Impartiality and incomparable Sweetness of Temper, which are the proper Characteristicks

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### Nº 28. The TRUE BRITON.

239

Tryals have generally been too fatal Examples of Rage, Cruelty, and Partiality: And if ever we should have the Misfortune, in some future Time, to fall into violent Hands, we shall, perhaps, have Cause to regret some certain Precedents, and shall find, that every other Law, either in a Civil or Criminal Case, will be interpreted according to their Intention, and even strained beyond their natural Import, to answer the Views of designing Men.

FOR if ever Litigants should gain their Points according to what Interest is made to Great Men, and that the bare Mention of one of the Parties to the Suit's being averse to People in Power, be enough to obtain a Caule, it must certainly be attended with bad Consequences for the present; but with Regard to Futurity, must furnish Examples of the most pernicious and fatal Tendency. Indeed, were People to be told, They must obey, each Party, in its Turn. would know what to trust to; But if ever Injustice should put on the Dress of Probity, the poor People would be taught to pay Respect to the Shadow, and neglect the Substance. How happy are we, when we can really fay, at present, we are Strangers to all this! And 'm's hop'd the same Happiness will be transmitted to late Posterity.

SOME People have imagined from the vast. Tyde of Business that flows daily into the Chancery, that the Meum and Tuum of the Nation may be safely intrusted to the arbitrary Determination of one Man. And this immediately directs us to admire that consummate and superior Genius, that invincible Force of Reason, that steady Impartiality and incomparable Sweetness of Temper, which are the proper Chanacteristicks

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240 The TRUE BRITON. No 28, racteristicks of the Noble Lord who presides in that High Court.

SO conspicuous in all his Actions are the Milita and Publick Spirit of this Great Minister, that it wou'd be an Injury to compare with him any of the very Great Men who have adorn'd that high Station before him. Nor do I know of any one in past Ages, except it be Florentius the Prafect of the Last, and Exconful of the Emperor Theodofius II. A. D. 419. who, after innumerable Services to his Sovereign and his Country, in advising and procuring many just and wife Laws to be enacted, Generously Devoted Part of his own Fortune to supply the Loss the Publick Treasury would sustain by the Abolition of an Infamous Tax. Whereby he gain'd the following Memorable Testimony from his August Master, in an Edict on that Occasion directed to his Prafectus Pratorio. - A Testimony so Glorious and Honourable, as can be only parallell'd in the Preambles of some of the Letters Patents of Modern Times!

LET History, saith that Prince, deserve (or obtain) Belief from present Examples, and let Antiquity be freed from all Ambiguity, when it tells us of Great Men who preser the Commonwealth before their own Estates. We may behold the illustrious Florentius, who, supported by the Admir nistration of the Pretorian Presession, by the Emulous Virtue of an excellent Mind, strives, not only with the Merits of our Ancestors, but with his own Great Deserts towards the Commonwealth; the Reputation whereof he hath vindicated, not only by his Council and Prudence, but also by his

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#### The TRUE BRITON. Nº 28.

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Devotion and Munificence, from the Blot and In-

famy of shameful Turpitude. For, observing how

by the Damnable Craftiness of Pandors, the Inad.

vertency of the Ancients was circumvented, under

pretence of a certain Lustral Prestation, it being

· lawful to exercise a Commerce of corrupting of

· Chastity, out of a pious Inclination of Propagating

an universal Modesty, he suggested to us. That it

was one part of the Injury of the present Times,

that Pandors were permitted to be in the City, and

that the Treasury was furnished by their filthy

Traffick. And, tho' he knew that we abominated

it, and had no respect to the Tribute; yet, lest

any Damage shou'd come to our Ararium, he

offered us fo much of his own Estate, as, out of the

Revenues of which, as much Profit would arife, as

was wont from that wretched fort of Trade. Where-

fore, willingly embracing his Forecast and Munisi-

cence, by this lasting Law, we Ordain, &c.

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Dr. HOWELL, from whose History of the World I have taken this Passage, makes also mention of a Practice used by the Great Men in those Times, of intruding themselves into Governments and Places of Honour and Trust, by indirect Methods: To prevent which, a Solemn Oath was injoyned, by the Advice of the same Great Man, which I cannot help transcribing in the very Words of the Edict, and with my Author's Introduction: And the rather, because 'tis the only Oath that I think can be said to be wanting in this Swearing Age.

'NOTWITHSTANDING all Care that had been taken, yet some Persons crept indirectly into R 2

#### The TRUE BRITON Nº 28 242 the Government of Provinces; of which Theodoffus. having Notice, probably from Florentius himself, at the latter end of November he fent him an express Order, by way of Rescript or Edict, " That, " no Persons shou'd be admitted to such Governments, as thought to attain them by Ambition or " Reward, but were promoted thereto by the Testi-" mony of an approv'd Life, or of him the Prafect. " And with this Circumstance, That fuch as shou'd be advanc'd to those Honours by the Choice of his " Seat, or the Emperor himself, should Sweat pub-" lickly, That neither they, nor any for them, bad given any thing for obtaining these Governments, nor " would give for the Time to come, thereby breaking. " both the Law and their Oath : No, not by any Title of Sale or Donation, or any other Colour or Pretence " of any Contract what soever: And that for and by " reason of such Employments gratuitously received, " their Salaries or Allowances only excepted, they shall " receive nothing for any Favour done in the Time of " their Governments, either while in Power, or when " returned to a Private Life: And altho' (he adds) " he supposes no Man so devoid of the Fear of God, " as by contemning an Oath, to prefer any Worldly 44 Advantages before his own Salvarion; yet, that " Necessity of Danger may be subjoined to the Feat. " of Salvation, if any shou'd dare to violate his Oath, " he grants free Liberty of accusing both Giver and



" Receiver, as of a Publick Crime,

To the Author of the TRUE BRITON.

Dear SIR.

To

Current Report has been propagated at all the Tea Tables in Town, that you intend to Print the Ten Commandments and the Lord's Prayer, in your True Briton, for the Information and Edification of certain People, who are supposed never to have heard of fuch things. Now, Sir, I, in the Name of many of your Female Admirers, earnestly beg of you, as you would avoid utter Demolition, to defift from fuch a bold Enterprize, 'till you have confulted the feveral Orders of Men in this Kingdom, whether the Times will bear fo Critical a Publication. For you must needs know, by the woful Experience of your Printer, what Misconstructions every thing is liable to that that you publish, fince whatever would be ftyl'd a Panegyrick in other Papers, has been generally deemed a Reflection in yours. And besides, the very inferting of 'em in the True Briton, will be fuf. ficient to make all the Modern Whigs in the Kingdom expunge them from their Bibles, and remove them as far from their Sight, as they have long been from their Hearts and Practices.

Tour Zealous Admirer,

former sages, and be taught to purfue the avoid the orner, I cannot think the follows an unacceptable Entertainment for one of the

.tnamod dailadtA Holery, where, as in a Glass of the Virtues and Vices of Great Pt

HT harded out the gans of Artestas and



# TRUE BRITON.

### NUMB. XXIX.

——— Quo tibi, Tulli, |
Sumere depositum clavum, sierique Tribuno?
Invidia accrevit, privato que minor esset. HOR

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9. 1723.

To the Author of the TRUE BRITON.

SIR,

INDING that in your last Paper, you have mentioned some Passages taken from Dr. Howell's History of the World, I thought it might not be amiss to send you the following Tran-

fcripts from the same Writer. As no Study is so useful to Mankind as History, where, as in a Glass, Men may see the Virtues and Vices of Great Persons in former Ages, and be taught to pursue the one, and avoid the other, I cannot think the following will be an unacceptable Entertainment for one of your Papers. I have singled out the Reigns of Arcadius and Hone.

## No 29. The TRUB BRITON.

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rius, the Sons of Theodofius the Great, because as they both began their Reigns in their Minority, in which Evil Ministers and Oppressors generally swarm, so I believe no equal Space of Time can produce such a continued Succession of Miscreants and Traytors, who, like the Hydra's Heads, as fast as one was lopped off, sprang up from the Ruins of the former.

IT must needs be Matter of great Surprize, and a Proof of the Degeneracy of those Times, That although Divine Justice never failed to overtake and exemplarily punish the Avarice and Ambition of those wicked Ministers, yet the Ignominy and Ruin of the One, were not sufficient to deter his immediate Successors in Power from pursuing the same destructive Measures, and treading in the like Steps, 'till Destruction, like a Deluge, likewise overwhelmed them, and they were made Sacrifices to atone for the Mischies's done to an injur'd People,

AS no Application can possibly be made to our present Happy Times; so I shall take especial Care, in whatsoever I shall transmit to you, not to contribute to the Harasses of your Printer.

'IT was the Misfortune of Theodosius (says Dr. Howell, p. 448.) to be deceived in Men toward his latter End; though as to those that served him at his first Entrance, Pacatus magnifies both his Fortune and his Choice. And the great Mischief was, that it happened towards his latter End; for he might, had he lived, have discovered and removed those Persons, who being intrusted by him with the Management of the Affairs of his Sons, gave Be-R 4

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ginning to those Miseries which afterwards fell up-

P. 473. ' TO Arcadius he affighed the Patt. and to Honorius the Western Parts; and till they should come to Maturity, he appointed Rufmus Chief Governour or Affiffant to the former, and to the latter Stilicho. These Men having such great Advantages, and puffed up, and imboldened therewith, when the Empire by Reason of the Barbarians which hover'd upon it, was in so ticklish a Condition, that it required their Care and Diligence to fecure it, thrust it on, and plung'd it, through their Ambition, into greater Inconveniencies, and fuch as it could never recover itself out of them; for they took Advantage of the Youth and Imbecility of their Mafters. and omitted no fort of Villainy to advance themfelves into their Rooms. They now determined all Suits and Controversies with great Licentiousnels; and he went away with the Cause who could give o most Money, or by some Relation to the Judge, or · Indearment with him, could draw him to his Party. Now Lands and Estates, of which the Owners were thought happily seized, were made over and appropriated to them two: Some by fuch Means bribing them, and thereby evading their Calumnies, with which else they would be over-power'd; and others freely parting with them thereby to purchase Offices and other Advantages, whereby the Cities were oppressed. The Provinces being thus harass'd on every fide, all the Wealth flowed into their Coffers; and in every Place, Poverty raged, where lately had been abundance of all Things,

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MY Author informs us; That after having vastly inriched themselves by such Methods as these, their Pride and Arrogance grew to so great a Height, that they meditated no less than to obtain the Purple for themselves; And to pave their Way to Empire, endeavour'd each to exalt his Daughter to the Imperial Bed. In this Stilieho succeeded, and, in all Probability, Rusmus had effected the same, had he not been circumvented by the Intrigues of the Eunuch Eutropius, who found Means to persuade the Emperor to marry another Lady.

Order incounts, bent about March to Conflored

RUFINUS, notwithstanding this Disappointment, resolving to attempt the Imperial Dignity, to bring about his ambitious Purposes, sill'd all Places with his Creatures; and, in order to weaken his Master's Forces and Power, prevailed upon Alarick the turbulent Goth, to invade Greece; who accordingly taking up Arms, destroy'd whole Provinces with Fire and Sword, and meeting with no Resistance from the Governors who had been raised by Rusinus, struck a Terror to the very Gates of Constantinople. And to so great a Degree of Insolence was Rusinus arrived, that when Stilicho with an Army was come to the Relief of Arcadius, he by Menaces and Force, extorted from the Emperor a Command for his Corrival to quit the Eastern Dominions.

AT length the Time came, that he was to reap the Reward of all his Villainies; for Stilicho having pretended to difinife the Eastern Troops, that were in his Army, gave private Directions to Gaines their General, to destroy this common Enemy; who in Order

Order thereunto, bent their March to Constantinople, pretending to take Part with Rufinus: Who, accompanied by the Emperor, went out to meet them, and congratulated their Return to their own Country: And now believing himself secure of Dominion and Empire, he had the Boldness before the Soldiery. to pluck the Emperor by the Robe, complaining and chiding, that he did not afcend the Tribunal. and declare him his Partner in the Sovereignty. With that (to use the Words of the Historian) they all drew their Swords, and in a confused Noise. demanded of him, If he imagined to make them Slaves, who had given Laws to some, restored others to Liberty, had twice put an Fnd to Civil Broils, and broken through the Alps themselves; And they told him plainly, That by so many Wars, they were c sufficiently taught not to serve a Tyrant. Being pow intrapped as some wild Beast in the Theare, one from amongst the Crowd, runs out upon him, and giving him a Blow, tells him, That it was Stilicho who struck him by that Hand. This Blow was followed with innumerable others; happy being he which could get a Stroke, or have any Limb or Member of him; which they carried aloft, as in fome folemn Triumph, especially his Head. And fuch as bore his Hands, begged fomething to be beflowed on them, and moved his Fingers (in Derifion) fo far as to receive it; while in the mean Time the Multitude from the City glutted their Eyes in his Blood; and such as had lost their Relations by his Procurement, rejoiced to fee him brought to the fame, or had it been a more ignoble End. Hereupon the Poet (Claudian, from whom my Author takes this Account, confirmed by other Authentick

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#### The TRUE BRITON. Nº 29. · Historians) takes Occasion very fitly to admonish all Persons in Prosperity not to trust to Fortune, which feems at prefent to finile upon them, feeing that all Things in this World are utterly flippery and inconstant: For that Hand which now address. fed itself to bear a Sceptre, which had been so often kissed by the suppliant Nobility; being torn from the Carcase, and both remaining unburied, after Death itself now went a fad Way of Begging. Let him that carries his Head so High in his prosperous Estate, east an Eye toward it, which formerly fo great and powerful, was now thrown in the Streets to be trod on by any Man. He who built Pyramids, and provided a Monument for his Sepulture which equalled Temples, who thought of nothing but being cloathed in Purple, now became naked, as he was, and a Prey to the Fowls of the Air. He who had, in his Thoughts, possessed himself of the World, now lay wanting a little Earth, was buried by Parcels with a thin Mold, and was often buried, and yet no where, - Thus perished Rusinus, as he had justly deserved, who had both been the Author of infufferable Mischiefs to Private Persons.

BUT though the Eastern Empire was thus delivered from the Attempts of this Miscreant, his Fall was not sufficient to deter others from pursuing his Steps. That same Eutropius the Eunuch, who had been so instrumental in the Destruction of Rusinus, now having found Means to procure the greatest Part of his confiscated Estate, began to set up for himself, in such Manner, as, if possible, to surpass the Villainies of the former. And tearing that Timasius, who for

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and of great Calamities to the Publick State.

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The TRUE BRITON. many Years had worthily fuffain'd the Dignity of Magister Militum, and faithfully served in many Wars, would stand in his Way, he procured one Bar. gus, a notorious Villain, and whom from a Seller of Puddings and fuch like Stuff, Timafius for his Buffoonry and Facetious Humour, had preferred to the Command of a Cohort, by counterfeit Writings to accuse his Benefactor of affecting the Sovereignty; and fo got him banished into Oasis, " a barren Place " in Ægypt, out of which there could be no Escape " fo great and fandy a Defart did incompass it in " which was neither Tree nor House; nor Way to " be feen, which the Winds constantly filled up with " Sand;" nor was he nor his Son ever heard of more, being, in all likelihood, made away by the Contrivances of the Villainous Eunuch, who soon after laid hold of a Pretence to destroy Bargus also, by the Accusations of his own Wife, and so prevented his telling Tales.

' EUTROPIUS now drunk with Power, favs my Author, and in his Imagination lifted up above the Clouds, had in all Countries his Spies to pry curiously into all Matters, and into the Estate of every Person especially; and every Way he made his own Markets, and inrich'd himself. His Covetousness and Envy setting him against every one that was considerable in Place, provok'd him also against Abundantius, who had long served in the Wars, and born the greatest Dignities, as those of Pretor and Consul, and who was his first Promoter and Patron. Him he procured the Emperor to deprive of all his Honours and Estate, and he was commanded to keep himself at Sidon, where he spent

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Nº 29. The TRUE BRITON. . 25

fpent the Remainder of his Days. And now having none at Constantinople of whom he could be jealous, he fixed his Thoughts on Stilicho, and to prevent Disturbance from him, he persuaded Arcadius to call the Senate, and to declare him an Enemy to the Empire by Publick Decree; And still farther to secure himself against Stilicho, and to cut him out Work nearer home, he procured Gildo Governor of Africk for the Emperor Honorius, to revolt to Arcadius; who afterwards set up for himself, and became another Tyrant in an Age so fruitful of Villains.

Calves Aired in Tir

EUTROPIUS went on to turn Men out of their Just Possessions, imploying Promoters and In. formers in every Place, discarding all faithful and ' honest Officers, and promoting most abject and un-' fit Persons to Imployments, even Barbarians as well ' as others, if they brought but Money, which caused the utmost Discontents among the People, and even the Bishops openly complained, saith my Author, P. 497; among whom John Chryfostome, fared " much the worse for his liberal speech: So that at last, out of Publick Odium, Factions, Affociations or Conspiracies sprang up against Eutropius and ' his Creatures; at which being alarmed, he procured ' so severe a Law against such as should devise the. Death of Counsellors, as the like is not to be found ' in all the Roman Monuments; ' Which my Author gives at large in P. 497, of his History, and to which I refer. Hed to Li

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<sup>&#</sup>x27;STILICHO having marry'd his Daughter to Honorius, believed himself immoveably fix'd, and Eutropius leading and Governing Arcadius no other-

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wife than like some filly Sheep, if there were any Noble or Pleasant Seat in any Country, it was made

over to one of them two, or if any Gold or Silver, it

" flew from the right Owners into their Coffers, there

being a great Number of Informers imployed, who

had in Charge to calumniate ever fuch kind of

Men.' This animated against Eutropius, that very Gaines, who, at the Head of the Eastern Troops, had destroy'd Rusmus, and who, as the Event proved was more concern'd to be excluded from a Share of the Power and Plunder, than defirous to free the Country from such a Monster. Gaines stirr'd up Tribigild, a Barbarian Commander, who, by his Connivance, laid desolate whole Provinces, sparing neither Age nor Eutropius mean time, fetting no Bounds to his Ambition, procured himfelf to be created Confel, to the Violation of the Curule Chair, to the Pollution of the Registers, and the Shame of the Empire; and arrived at that prodigious Infolence, as to threaten, upon some Difgust he took at the Empress, to fend her home, and banish her the Imperial Bed and Palace. Tribigild by this Time was grown so formidable by the Contrivance of Gaines, as to prescribe Terms to the Emperor, infishing to have Eutropius delivered up to him, which the Emperor finding himfelf obliged to comply with, the infolent Eunuch was immediately stript of all his Power and Dignity, and he, whose Ambition half the World could not contain, found himself destitute in one Moment, of Friends or Safeguard, and fled to the Altar which he had so often profan'd, for Sanctuary; and could only be respited from the Rage of the unruly Multitude, who would have torn him in Pieces, by the Eloquence of that very Bishop (Chrysostome) whom he had treated ill for admo-

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No 29. The TRUE BRITON. 253 admonishing him to Moderation in his Prosperity. Being banish'd to the Island of Cyprus, he was soon after Try'd before the Presett; a deserved Death was inflicted upon him, and all his immense Wealth consistant.

GILDO, who at the Instigation of Eutropius had revolted from Honorius, and afterwards assumed to himself the Imperial Purple, was at length subdu'd and destroy'd by his own Brother. And now Gaines. who had openly joined with Tribigild, and laid desolate all Places where-ever he came, fet himself in the Place of Rufinus and Eutropius, and out of their Ruins, commenced as great a Monster. Marching hostilely towards Constantinople, he insolently infisted to treat Personally with the Emperor, refusing to confer with any Body else; and when Arcadius, being compelled, confented thereto, he demanded the most Eminent Ministers of State to be delivered into his Hands, whom he drove into Banishment; and then pretending to be fatisfy'd, and to depart, he plotted privately to make himself Master of Constantinople; in which being disappointed, he declared open War; and after the most cruel Massacres and Devastations, at length being beaten in a Sea fight, retired with the broken Remains of his Army to the Ister, and was there attack'd by Uldes Prince of the Huns, who, after an obstinate Fight, gaining the Victory, and flaying the Traytor, fent his Head a Present to the Emperor Arcadius.

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for 10BY a Succession of these Harpies, and the Weak ness of the Emperor Arcadius, was the Eastern Empire reduced to a very low Ebb, and Encouragement given

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wards, like an Inundation, overwhelm'd the Roman Empire. Stilioba and his Transactions, may perhaps, be the Subject of another Letter, (if this meets with your Approbation): And I shall conclude with transcribing the Words of the Edict of the Emperor Ar. cadius, on the Deposing and Banishing Eutropius; Which sets forth, in lively Colours, as well the Villainy of that Favourite, as it is also a fort of Acknowledgment to Posterity of the Weakness of the Emperor (ex Ore suo) for promoting and so long protecting so ville a Miscreant.

IN this Edict; fays my Author, Arcadius fignifies to Aurelianus the Præfect, ' That he had confifcated "all the Estate of Eutropius, who was of late the · Propositus Sacri Cubiculi; the Consulpip and the Splendor thereof being vindicated from mafty Filth, from the Commemoration of his Name, and the Dirtiness of it; fo that all his Acts being rescinded. all Times to come may be filent concerning him; and that, faith he, the Blot and Blemish of our pre-Gent Age may not appear. Neither let him mourn, who by his Valour or his Wounds, propagates the Roman Borders, or defends them by the Equity of Law, that the Divine Reward of the Confulpip, hath been defiled by the Contagion of a dirty Prodigy. Let Eutropius know also, That he is spoiled of the Dignity of Patrician, and all other inferior Honours, which he hath polluted by the Wickedness of his Manners. We command, That all Statues, Images, as well of Brass as Marble, as well painted as wrought out of any substantial Matter, be utterly defaced, abolished, and removed out of all Cities; 6 both

N° 29. The TRI both private polluted by fich a Mark of this our Ac. him, with a sufficient Guard, he carried is liftand of Copres; so which your Highner take Notice he is mithed, that being there ca fully watched and kept close, he may not, by his Madness, confound all things. XX Your Conftant Admirer? Sufficient liber let out, the qui imperioles: THE THE DISCOUNT COME THE PHILOBRITON. Refression engineering, contenuere honores HOR FRIDAY, SEPTEMBR 12. 1722. To the TRUE BRITON. and antidenA the Matter in the had a promore and sould From the Tank I believe t our arrival in traine of Political I they make no of an above upon a can of 1 o

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# TRUE BRITON.

#### MUMB. XXX.

Quisnam igitur liber? sapiens, sibi qui imperiosus: Quem veq; pauperies, neq; mors, neq; vincula terrent: Responsare cupidinibus, contemnere bonores Fortis, &c. HOR

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBR 13. 1723.

### To the TRUE BRITON.

SIR,



HEN a Man has an Ambition to entermin the Publick, he generally endeavours to pick out a fresh Subject, that has not been defied by the Pen of the Scribber. This, indeed, is no

easy Matter in this Nation of Writers; But I think I have hit upon one; for MONESTY is my Theme. I believe I ought, in Imitation of Philosophers, when they make use of an uncommon Term of Art, to define the Meaning of it; but I am pretty sure, that the TRUE BRITON and his Admirers are not wholly unacquainted with it.

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I DARE own. That I have a ftrong Defire to bring this antiquated Virtue into Repute again, but I am fentible of the Extravagance of the Projects and the innumerable Difficulties that are to be furmounted in the Execution of it: I might as eafily undertake to bring the Ruffs and Pantofles of our Forefathers into Fashion. All, therefore, that can now be done; is. To celebrate its ancient profeereus State, and to lament its prefent Decay in I speak of the the white Modern Bestronions, which, though they do not give

THERE are Virtues and Vices which are poculiar to each Constitution of Many to the different Period of their Lives, to their vatious Educations and Profestions, and to particular Families and Societies. Befides this every Nation is diffinguished after the fame Manner: Whether it proceeds from the Olimate. or the Temper of the first Inhabitant transmitted to his Posterity, is not my Business to inquire the Matter of Fact every Man of Observation will allow. I pass over an Hundred Inflances that might be produced to take Notice, that Honefly was eminently the Virtue of Britons. Of this the most antient Writers that give any Account of us make Mention : This our Enemies, and those that despised us, have recorded of us. They were, perhaps, the more willing to grant it us, because it was a Virtue in no great Esteem with them. But, in reality, it was a glorious Distinction, fusicient to atone for the Want of Opulence, Delicacy, and Thirst of Empire, the Modern Aim of Nations. Long time it flourish'd here, and bravely struggled against the Incroachments that were made upon it: But many Years ago, an Inundation of Foreigners overwhelmed it, and instead thereof; S 2 brought

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brought in Dissimulation and Politeness. It is with Pleasure I see these Qualifications, that have a support in Place of the southwardly upon uses where we may enterprine distant Hopes, that Honess will in I may be supported Dominion and Salaria and Adams and Salaria an

rable, althis neglected and sidiculed: It is forced eithert to disappear, or to put on a Masque. It is intrely out of the Mode: This we may learn from Modern Dedications, which, though they do not give as the teast Insight into the Virtues of the Person they are ascribed to yet acquaint us with what are in Four and I defy any one to show me a Dedication wrote for several Years past, whether it be to a Minister of State, a Judge, or a Bishop, where Honesty is not excluded the Lump, by their flattering Panestrish.

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THE French, who perhaps, are as great Strangers to the Thing as Outselves, have yet had the Complaisance to keep up the Name, though in a different Sense; for by Un Honere Homme, they express no more than a Well-bred Man; which, in my Opinion, is very wide of the Antient Meaning of it, if not directly contrary to it,

WHEN the Name of Honesty was discarded our Fashionable World, another Word started up in its Room, the nothing like it in Signification: This is Honour, a Term of so great a Latitude, that it seems to include every thing but Honesty. Accordingly the Phrase Upon my Honour, frequently signifies, in some Countries beyond Sea, Upon my P\_\_\_\_n, or my W. S. or my Hopes of Preferment or, in the best

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## No 30. The TRUE BRITON.

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Acceptation, Upon my Principles or Oblinacy. Honefty was the Tenderest Thing in Nature; the least Deviation or false Step, cast a Blemish on it - Honour is invulnerable, will comply with any thing, is, at least, as easy in Consort with Vice as with Virtue; it has only one Incumbrance upon it, The Obligation to accept a Challenge in any Cafe, and in many Cafes. to offer it; but even in this Pinch I have known a good Jest bring it off very succeisfully. Honesty is feated in the Soul, and discovers itself only by a regular Course of laudable Actions: Honour is wholly external, continually talking of itself, is uneasy when it is not taken Notice of, and, in Solitude, feems to lose its Being. Henour is a Courtier in any Reign or. any Ministry. Honesty is often call'd Disloyal on 2 Rebel. Honesty is a Clean Vigorous Body in a phain. Cloth Suit. Honour is a Rotten Carcale in Brogade. and a Gilded Chariot. Cook gears? the Roman State.

THE Honourable Man is suspicious, surrounded with Spies; gets out of Debt in proportion as his Country gets into it; Amasses as many Plumbs as he is Years in the Administration; mixes Publick Councils and Laws with Personal Pique and Resentment; will be obsequious to a Cobler, that can Vote for him, and imperious to a Duke or an Archbishop, that he has an Influence over; is Turn most obedient hample Servant, at the same time that he is undermining you in your Property or Life;

1 1 100 or Tet Caffine is an Honourable Man ! siduer T

IN a Word, Cate, who was a Lover of his Country, and an Enemy to Tyranny, was an Honest Man; and Sejanus a Man of Honour: of whom Tacitus gives this

this Character in the Beginning of his Fourth Book of Annals.

TIBERIUM varies artibus deviant also as observed adversum alios, sibi uni incausum incomun action que efficeret: non tam sollertià (quippe il dem artibus victus est) quam Deum tra in Rem Romanam: Corpus illi laborum toleruns, animus audax; sui obtecens in alios criminator: suxta Adulatio & Suberbia palam compositus Pudor; intus summa observatio bibido: ejusque causa modo largitio & lucius sepus industria ac vigitantia.

Aftendant over Tiberius so far, that he made him Reserved to others, but to himself Careless and Open. He did not rise so much through Policy (for hy that others overpowered him) as from the Wrath of the Gods against the Roman State. He had a strong Body and a hold Mind. He dissembled his own Paulis, and impeached others: Flattery and Prize were united in him: By his outward Appearance one would think him Modest; but inwardly he had the most unsatisfied Thirst after Riches, to which he sometimes made Industry Subservient, and sometimes Luxury and Bribery.

I HAVE quoted the Place to prevent Minnterpretations; and I should have transcribed the Original only, but I was unwilling to create too much Trouble to the Honourable Gentlemen, that are obliged to rail at you Weekly. I am,

bas , as M. C. as as Tour Humble Servent

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a Man of Honour: of whom Taciens gives

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THAT we may not appear ungrateful to the Gentlemen who have been so kind to transmit Letters to us, I shall take this Opportunity to acknowledge the Favour of the following.

THE Letter subscrib'd Philo-Briton, relating to the Affairs of Sweden, is come to Hand, and we shall take a proper Opportunity to give it a Place in the True Briton.

THE Author is much obliged to the Gendeman who dates from Wales, and files himself Cambro Britannus, as well for the good Opinion he has of him, as for the Subject of his Letter; which he will infer in some future Paper, and defires the Continuance of his Correspondence.

THE Letter fign'd Politicus is also come to Hand; but we defire the Gentleman's Excuso for not inferting it, the Subject having been treated on in some of our late Papers.

THE Letter fign'd J. D. C. recommending my Lord Lucas's Speech, &c. shall be inserted in our next.

WE return Thanks to the Gentleman who sent the Verses upon Bourgen, Poli, &c. occasion'd by Sir Richard Blackmore's Panegyrick on those Admirable Personages, in his ALFRED, and shall be glad the Author will transmit the Remainder of them.

THE Letter dated from Lothbury, and fign'd Trihumus Populi, relating to some late Elections in the S 4 City,

## 262 The TRUE BRITON.

City, will be confider'd in proper Time; As will also the Queries from Carr's Pacquet, relating to the Election of Sheriffs in 1682.

THE Gentleman who figns N. O. relating to the Barbarity and Inconsistency of some Virulent Scriblers, deserves our Acknowledgments for his good Intentions: But we are determined to despise the impotent Malice of these Hireling Wretches, on whom is fastened the Curse of a barbarous Ingratitude, in being obliged Weekly to rail at and calumniate the Author of their Subsistance, and even of their very Being, as Scriblers; And as their miserable Productions die away as soon as born, or in very sew Hours, it would be cultable to take Notice of them, since it might thereby contribute to pester the World by giving a longer Life to such studied Malice and incorrigible Dulness.

THE Lady who infifts to have some entirem Post in the Government, now she has been obliged to take the Oaths, and promises, both for herself and Sen, to consent to be render'd for ever incapable of all Places of Honour and Trust, if they do not govern better than the Men, is inform'd hereby, that her Letter is come to Hand, and will meet with proper Regard in some suture Paper.

THE Latin Sapplic Poem intitled Episcopus Roffensis Exul, as also the Verses from N. B. are like wife received.

THE Letter dated from Enthusy, and figuid Tri-Letter Populi, relating to fome late Elections in the ART Populi, relating to fome late Elections in the



Men, that we should in Hante reflered to His Ma

N.U.M.B. XXXI.

Salmage paol of

Nullam tantam potestatem cuiquam dari posse, ut non. sit gratior potestate libertas. Plin. in Panegyr.

Mondaly September 16. 1723.

To the Author of the TRUE BRITON.

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H.E. following of Meinorable Speech which was Spoke in the House of Lords in King Charles the Scopadie Reign, when the Kingo was prefent, by the Lord Lucas, upon a Subfide

Bill of Twelve pence in the Pound, theing fenr to that House from the House of Commons has in it to much of the Spirit, the Courage, and the Honesty of a TRUE BRATO N, that I am persuaded you will think it very worthy of a Place in your Paper, which so deservedly bears that Title. [See Echards History of England, P. 872. Edit 31]

faithfully ferred the King, are exposed to Penury and officers, and fearer fufficient left to buy them for ad-

WHEN, by the Providence of Abnighty U Nation recall'd His Majetty to the

of the Regal Power, it was the Hopes of all good Men, that we should not only be restored to His Majesty's Royal Presence, and Divine Laws, but me should be free from those beavy Burthens under which we had lain fo long oppress'd: We did believe, that from thenceforth every Man should fit under bis own Vine, enjoying the Pruits of Peace and Plenty; and Aftrea herfelf, long fince for the Sins of Men fled up to Heaven, should have been invited by His Majelly most Gracious and Happy Reign, to return hither, and dwell and converse am ongst Mortals again. But, alas! we are fallen very short of our Expectations, and our Burthens are so far from being made lighter to us that they are beavier than ever they were; and as our Burthensare increas'd, so our Strength is also diminish'd. and we are less able to support them - It is evident there is a great Scorcity of Money in the Natio and yet if amidst this Scarcity, the vast Sums given were all imploy'd for the King and Kingdom, it not so much trouble us: But we cannot, without in finite Regret of Heart, fee fo great a Part of it pounded up in the Purfes of other private Men, and fee them flourish in Estates; who, in the Time of His Majesty's most Happy Restauration, where worth very little or nothing : and now thefe faine Men purchase Lands, and keep their Coach and Six Horfes, their Pages and their Lacqueys; while in the mean Time those that have faithfully served the King, are expos'd to Penury and Want, and scarce sufficient left to buy them Bread. And

And is this, my Lords, the Reward of our Services? Have we for this born the Heat of the Lay! been kind prison d, Sequestred, ventur'd our Lives and Families, our Estates and our Fortunes? And must we, after the this, facrifice so much of our poor Remainder to the Will of a few particular Men, and the Maintenance of their Vanities.

BUT suppose all the Money given were imploy'd for the Use of His Majesty, and His Majesty were not cozen'd, (as without Doubt he is) is there no Bounds to, or Moderation in giving? Will you fay, That if we shall not plentifully supply his Majelly. he will not be able to defend us, or to maintain the Triple League; and we shall thereby run the Hazard of being Conquer'd? Tis true, my Lords, that this may be a Reason for giving something, but it is to far from being an Argument for giving fo much, that it may clearly be made out to your Lordships, that it is the direct and ready Way to be conquer d by a Foreigner. And it may be the Policy of the French King, by those often Alarms of Armies and Fleets, to induce us to confume our Treasure in vain Preparations against him: And after he has by this Means, made us Poor and Weak enough, he may then come upon us, and destroy us. It is not the giving of a great deal, but the well managing the Money given, that must keep us fafe from our Enemies. Your Lordships may be pleas'd to call to mind the Story of Sampfon, who while he preserved his Hair wherein his Strength lay, was still Victor over his Enemies; but when by the Inticement of his Delilab, his Hair was cut off, the Philiftines came upon him, and overcame him : And fo, my Lords, if we shall proserve and husband well our

Treasure wherein our Strength and Sincus of W lie, and apply it, to the right Uses; we shall fill be Superior to our Enemies; But if we shall waist improdently mispend it, we shall become an easy to em. Befides my Lords, what is this but No moriare mori, and for fear of being conquer'd by Foreigner, to put ourselves in a Condition almost as bad? Pardon me, my Lords, if I fay, in some respect a great deal worfe ; For when we are under the Power of the Victor, we know we can tall no lowers And the Certainties of our Miseries are some fort of Diminu tion of them : But in this wild Way, we have no Certainty at all; for if you give thus much to Day, you may give as much To-Morrow, and never leave giving till we have given all that ever we have away; an the Anxiety of Mind which arises from this doubtful Estate, is a high Addition to our Afflictions, All that I beg, my Lords, is, That we may be able to make fome Estimate of ourselves: Would his Majesty be pleas'd to have a Quarter of our Estates? for my Part he shall have it: Would his Majesty be pleas'd to have Half? for my Part, upon good Occasions, he shall have it : But I beseech Your Lordships then, that we may have some Assurances of the quiet Enjoyment of the Remainder, and know what we have to truft to.

My Lords, the Commons have here sent up a Bill for the giving his Majesty the Twentieth Part of our Estates at the full extended Value; and I hear there are other Bills for Money also preparing; which together, according to the best Computation, will amount to little less than Three Millions of Money. A prodigious Sum! and such, that if your Lordships will not afford Relief, we must of Necessity sink under the Weight

Weight of to heavy a Preffure, in My Lands, the S. ture tells, That God: Almighty Cen 18 Ocean, and fays ito it, Hither hall the come and no farther fand lo I hope your Lo in Imitation of the Dairy, will fet fome Bounds; Limits to the Over-liberal Humour of the Common and fay to them, Hither shall your Profuseness comes and no further. Either your Lordships can deny or moderate a Bill for Money coming from the Commons; or if you cannot, all your great Estates are wholly ar their Disposal, and your Lordships have nothing that your can properly call your own; and then let us this this Bill without further Examination. But if you can deny or moderate (as without Question you can) your Lordships never had, nor possibly will have such a fair Occasion to thew it. My Lords supon the whole Matter, I most humbly propose to your Lordships; that you would be pleased to reduce the Twelve-Pence in the Pound to Eight-Pence. And truly I have fome Reason to hope, that if your Lordships will duly reflect upon it you will find it to do accordingly; for, in the first Place, it will be fo far from being a Differvice to his Majesty, that your Cordships will do his Majesty in it the highest Service in the World? for the you first thereby take from his Majedy's Part of the Sum, you would give Him a great deal more in the Love and Hearts of his Subjects; and there his Majesty must reign, if he will be Great and Glorious. And hext, your Lord hips will acquire to your selves Eternal Honour; ye shall thereby endear yourselves to the whole Narron who for the future will look upon you as the Ancients did upon their Tittelar Gatt, hort hall the Holle of Commons, but the House of Reeds, be hereaster precious in their 2 13 Sight.

Treasure wherein our Strength and Sinews of War lies and applacit, to the right Ules we thall fill be Superior to our Enemies; But if we shall vainly and appropertly milpend it, we fhall bosom to 'em. Besides my Lords, what is this but No Foreigner, to put ourselves in a Condition almost as bad? Pardon me, my Lords, if I say, in some respect a great deal worfe s. For when we are under the Power of the Victor, we know we can tall no lower: And the Certainties of our Miferies are four fort of Diminution of them . But in this wild Way, we have no Cerwinty at all; for if you give, thus much to Day, you may give as much To Morrow, and never leave giving till we have given all that ever we have away, and the Anxiety of Mind which arises from this doubtful Estate, is a high Addition to our Afflictions. All that I beg, my Lords, is. That we may be able to make fome Estimate of ourselves: Would his Majesty be pleas'd to have a Quarter of our Estates? for my Part he shall have it: Would his Majesty be pleas'd to have Half? for my Part, upon good Occasions, he shall have it : But I befeech Your Lordships then, that we may have some Assurances of the quiet Enjoyment of the Remainder, and know what we have to truff to.

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eds with the extron. Now.

Signs. My Lords, give me Leave to mind your Bordhips, that Puble Acts are the Steps whereby the Great Man of the Walls affend the Planne of Clary; and canadese be a NoblemAct than to release a discouple A Sugalization which lies languishing under factory and Oppications, and is about to be so much more oppics discoursely more land, and the source oppics discoursely more land.

ATHIS Speech being printed thouly after, fags the Historian is was so distanteful to the present Ministry, that it was order'd to be hum by the Hands of the Common Hangman. How it affected the Heart of this Loyal Lord is not easily known; but in a very short time after he departed this Life, with the Reputation of one who had ever been faithful to his King and Country. However, it seem'd to have affected the House of Lords so far, that they immediately began to examine this Subsidy-Bill with more than usual Strictures, Esser

THIS, and some other Extraordinary Steps that were soon after taken, brought the Leading Men of that Time not only under Contempt, but gave strong Suspicious to the People of Bribery and Corruption, and laid the then House of Commons under the Negessity of purging themselves by the following Test: Which I hope will not be looked upon as an ill Precedent, if ever, in some future Time, we should fall into the like Circumstances. [P. 920, Anno 1675].

I A. B. do protest before God, and this poule of Parliament, That directly, neither I, nor any for my Use, to my knowledge, have, since the first

luchouty berived from his laid water ty, or any Partion, Diffharge or Relvice of C Main Dane, Pention, Garnier, of Reinsed, of any Promite of any luch De fice. Place or Command of 62 from his Hoener, Exegine, 02 jetty, oz one egate, of 01 belonging to bes Majeffy, 02 of, from, or by any foreign Amballabor, or Minister, or of, or from any other Person in the Name, or by the Appointment, or with the Knowledge of his Bajetty, or any of them; otherwise than what I have now in Cariting faithfully discover's and usin ver'd to this poule, which I have indicated with my Pame: Weither do I know any luch Gift, Grant, or Promife to given 02 made fince the faid Time to any other Member of this boule, but what I have alfo inferted in the lato Writing; not have I given my dote in Parliament for any Reward or Promife whatfoever. me God, &c. I am, STR.

Your Humble Servant.



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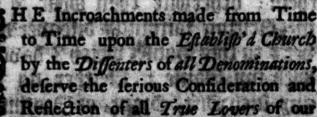
## NEW YORK

FA modus in rebus, from certi derique files,

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20. 1723.

## To the TRUE BRITON.

SIR,



Excellent Constitution.

THEY have always grown upon Concessions, and have never fail'd to take Advantage of the Necessians or Exigencies of the several Administrations under which they have liv'd, to strengthen themselves at the Expence of the very Establishment that gave them Protection and Indulgence.

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THE Exemption obtained very lately, by a particular Saff among them, from the foliation Obligations required of all others by the Government, as it was far from being conflitent with True Rolley for them to ask, and was no doubt the Attempt of some over-nicely forupalous Zealots amongst them, so is it a flagrant Instance of the Truth of this Observation:

THAT Teprincest Body of People well knew the Time, (the approaching Dissolution of a Parliament, and the speedy Calling of a new one) and the particular Views of some People to support themselves in Power, would not allow them to be disoblig's, and they push'd the advantageous Orisis with a Warmth and Dexterity peculiar to themselves, and obtain'd such a Distinction, that, if it does not glance a Resection on all other Professions, is however very glorious for themselves; since the bare Assimation of Creed of a Quaker, without any solemn Invocation of Appeal, is held a Security for their Fidelity to the State, equivalent to the most Solemn and Binding Ouths of all others, whether Churchmen or Dissenters.

AND here I believe it will not be amis to give a short Account of this People from their first Appearance, and by what Steps they have grown upon Induligence to so considerable a Height, as to procure for themselves such extraordinary Favours.

THEIR first Appearance was in the Year 1649; when the Usurpation of the Commonwealth, founded on the Murder of an Excellent King, became the Parent of numberless Evils both to Church and State. At what Time (says Echard in his History of England)

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never was greater Licence and Extravagance in Spicitual Masters, Herefiel and Halphomies swelling against Heaven to a prodigious Height. Particularly one Samon, a Preacher in Country chight the Prople to swear and curse, and to country things the dom, upon this proteis if Principle, That it was God that did sweat in them, and that it was their Investigation to keep Company with Women, to satisfy their natural Appetites. And one Woke set up for breathing the Spirit of Gas and Men, by kissing them three times. And besides these, says my Author, the unaccountable Exorbitancies and Illuminations of George Fox, and the People call'd Quakers, had their first Appearances in the same Year.

FROM this Time to the Year 1656, this Section became rather the Subject of Amusimens and Diversion to the Populace, by their Enthusiasm and rediculous Gesticulations, from whence they derived their Name, than noted for any considerable Progress. But about that Time James Naylor and other Enthusiasis, render'd them infamously conspicuous: The Manner whereof I shall recite in the Words of the same Author.

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AT the same Time, the Parliament was imploy'd and disturb'd by the frequent Essusions of Religious Phrenzy. The Quakers were extravagantly mad, if they may be judged by the rest of the World: One disturb'd the Preacher in White Chapel Chareh, with such a seditious Impulse, that a Complaint was made to the Protector, who ordered him to a Justice of the Peace, and to be prosecuted according to Law.

Another pretending to an immediate Message from God,

God, went about the Streets denoncing his Judgments against the Protector and his Council A Third in Gelobiflet was forinfaruated de to flare himself to Danis, upon the Claim of a Commission from the Spirit, That he must fast Porty Days. But the most inspedent of all Mortals, was James Naylors a lase Soldier under General Lembers, who blaff phemoutly fet up to be Jelus himfelf in Perlang and to with, Garty Hair, and Looks relembling the Pichites of our Bleffed Saviour, be went about with Disciples, and Women ministring unto him : And fo entred the City of Briffel, riding upon an Ale; with Whenen and la Mob crying Holanna | 860, and giving no whee Answer to any Question, but Thou bast faid it. The Magistrates of that City fent him to Westminster; where the Parliament, Dec. 8. Re: folvid. That lames Naylor was guilty of horrid Blasphemy, and a great Seducer of the People; and order'd the Speaker to pronounce this remarkable Sentence against him; To stand in the Pillory Two Hours at Westminster; To be subipp'd by the Hang-man thro' the Streets from Westminster to the Old Exchange, and there to stand in the Pillery Two Hours more; His Tongue bored thro with a Hot Iron and his Forehead stigmatiz'd with the Letter B, To be 'afterwards fent to Bristol, and convey'd thro' the City on a Horse back d, and his Face backward, and his Body whipp'd in the Market Place? Thence to be brought back to London, and committed to Prifor in Bridewell, and there to be refer ain a from all Company; and to have no Relief but what he earns from hard Labour , and being debarr & from the Uje of Pen, Ink and Paper, shall be kept to continual Work 'till be shall be releas'd by the Parliament. 21891

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#### THE TRUE ER PTONE 274

SIT was some Reproach to Human Mature, as or finelly observes (continues the Hiporian) that this wretched Fellow, under all his Sufferinger had fome of his Followers to admire and adore him, to lick his Wounds to kill his Feet to lean in his Bolom. and to do all that was prodigiously impious and filly. When he came first to Bridewell, to act on the Imposture, he fasted Three Days; but the Pless overspowering the Spirit, he begg d for Victuals, and fell Work. He was for fome Time diffound by the Quakers; but afterwards, upon forme Acknowledgment, receiv'd again into their Favour, and fo concinued one of their Preachers 'till his Death, which' happen'd in the Year 1660, in the County of Huntringdon. InD marke exactligate of Total but had

FROM such Blasphemous Beginnings was this Sect produc'd, and afterwards placing their Religion in Drefs, and an affected Simplicity of Speech, they drew in abundance of well-meaning ignorant People; and at the Revolution found them felves confiderable enough to be taken Notice of and favour'd in a particular manner, in the Indulgence granted to Protestant Diffenters, by an Exemption from taking the usual Oaths, and subscribing a Declaration of Fidelity instead thereof. smards fear to Bristot, and cost

BY an Act passed in the 7th and 8th of King William, they only aim'd to be excus'd the usual Oaths, and to be permitted to make the following Affirmation instead of them; viz. I. A. B. do declare in the Presence of Almighty God, the Witness of the Truth of what I say --- Nor was it thought fit to continue in Force the Favour of this Act, for any lon-BUT ger than Seven Years.

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BUT taking Advantage of a Pollure of Affairs favourable for them, they obtain d, in the 13th of the fame Reign, (before the Expiration of the preferibed Term) An Act for continuing the former Act, and for prolonging the Indulgence to them for Eleven Years after the Determination of the former.

UPON His Majesty's Happy Accession to the Throne, they began to extend their Views, and found Interest enough to procure the Exemption given them by the former Acts, to be made perpetual, by an Act passed Primo Georgii, and thereby in a manner became established.

HERE it might have been reasonably expected, that, as well in Point of Policy, as in Duty and Gratitude, they would have refled themselves satisfy'd But, grown spanton with Indulgence new Scruples now invade their tender Confciences, and, watching a fuitable Opportunity, they procure the Force of their Affirmation to be enervated, and obtain a Favour which is deny'd to the most Loyal and Greatest Subjects in the King's Dominione: Such a Favour! that they cannot enjoy, if they should be convinc dof their Errors, and come over to the Church of England and is therefore very little likely to encourage them to fuch a Change. The Words In the Presence of Almighty God the Witness of the Truth of what I say,] are omitted, and almost the simple Word of a Quaker is render'd of equal Validity with the Oath of a Bishop, or a Prime Comsellords of want how mainten

NO doubt the Legislature had its Reasons for this extraordinary Indulgence; and as the Petition of the Clergy.

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Cergy of the City of London against the Bill, and the Opposition and Protests of several Meble Peers, were not of Weight sufficient to prevent its passing, sie the Duty of the private Subject to acquiesce, and sie likewise the Duty of those Men to be fatisfy'd, and to make a righteaus Use of a Liberty, which would leave a Jesuit at large, though it seems to be thought sufficient to hold a Quaker.

I SHALL only add, That as I would be very far from becoming an Advocate for an unhappy Set of Men, who refuse to take the Oaths to his present Majesty; yet, surely, as it was only an Induspence to Tender Consciences that moved the Legislature to exempt the Quakers from the most solemn Part of the Obligation, a little Consideration for other scrupulous Consciences would have been no Insecurity to the State, but rather an Act of Meroy and Goodness in the Legislature, which is so usual to the British Establishment and Gonius.

THERE are, no doubt, many good Subjects even among the Nonjurors and Papifts themselves; and the they may think it unlawful to bind their Souls by some particular Requisitions, yet are so well satisfy'd with the Justice of the Parliamentary Title of his present Majetty, which has, for Conturies been esteem'd a Legal one, that they would not scruple their Allegiance to King GEORGE; nor to give all those Assurances which might secure their quies Belowiour and Duty to the Government.

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THE Sacrifices made by this Body of Men, and the Incapacities and Inflittions they chuse to lie under, rather

that deteng and the Fullows and Prejudices of fome Men among them, who feem rather to have been guided by a Spirit of Rhapfody and Fathufiafin, than by the Inducaces of Trush and Reafon) they may be yet efteem'd a Body of Men worth recovering to the State, and have as good a Tirle to Indulgence, with regard to fome Part of the State Oaths, as any Set of People whatfoever. The trans the set of the set

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Permittees, adop inchikeon his las TIS too notorious, that the Number of Tests has added to the Body of Nanjurors, and many Men who have been good Subjects to King WILLIAM and Queen ANNE (who had no other or ftronger Title than that of His present Majesty) have since unhappily augmented that Body: And as it has pleased God to take to himself the first Beginners of the State Schifm, as I may call it, fo I am apt to be lieve. That had had it not been for some risorous Terms and Inforcements in the State Oaths, which some People imagine not effential to the Security of the State, the Body of the Nonjurors would by this Time have dwindled away, or at least been too inconfiderable for the Publick Notice. of Svoiled I disto yers acceptable, it, incound your means,

internal that these A.I.S. muliis were not con

errol upon that wife People, without the Petro-Your Admirer and Humble Servant,

as the Opposition of a Number of Noble Peers. I fend XOCOHTRO Person of the Londen Clercy and



# TRUE BRITON.

#### NUMB. XXXIII.

Nemo satis credit tantum delinquere, quantum Permittas, adeo indulgent sibi latius ipsi. JUV.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 23. 1723.

### To the TRUE BRITON.

SIR.



AVING in my last Letter, taken Notice by what Steps the Quakers have grown upon the Indulgence of the Government, till they have procur'd for themselves Privileges and

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Exemptions, beyond what much better Subjects, and, to all Appearance, more Conscientious People could obtain, I believe, to complete that Subject, it will be very acceptable, if, through your Means, Posterity be inform'd, that these partial Favours were not conferr'd upon that wily People, without the Renion-strances of a considerable Body of the Clergy, as well as the Opposition of a Number of Noble Peers. I send you therefore, the Petition of the London Clergy, and the Protests of those Lords, on the Rejecting that Peti-

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Petition, and against the passing of the Bill: And believe, That, notwithstanding their having been already published, they contain so many seeing good Reasons for the Opposition given, as well as a rese Character of the Principles of those People, that every True Briton, who has at Heart the Interests of the Parest Character and Best Constitution in the World, cannot fail of being pleased to see them in your Excellent Paper,

Concerns thopogRIS, and the Intervention of

and to desire the four most finest of the Servant of the

SERVICE ORTHODOX,

Nations, in all Ages.

The Humble PETITION of the London Clergy ogainst the Quakers Bill;

Sheweth,

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HAT that there is a Bill now depending in your Lordships House, intitled, An Act for granting the People call a Quakers, such Forms of Affirmation or Declaration, as may remove the Difficulties which many of them lie under. Which Bill, should it pass into a Law, as it may, in its Consequences, nearly affect the Property of the Subject in General, so will it, in a more especial Manner, endanger the legal Maintenance of the Clergy by Tythes! Inasmuch as the People called Quakers, pretend to deny the Payment of Tythes, upon a Principle of Conscience; and therefore, as your Petitioners apprehend, may be under strong Inducements to ease their Conscience in that Respect, by violating it in another, when their simple Affirmation, in behalf of Friends

# of the Jame Permation, shall pass in all Courts of Justice for legal Evidence.

in their priorie Rights, may possibly suffer, are, as they ought to be, of small Account with them in Comparison of the Mischiess which may redound to society from the Indulgence intended; as it seems to imply, that Justice may be duly administred, and Government supported, without the Intervention of any solemn Appeal to God, as the Witness of the Truth of what is said, by all Persons, in Cases of great Importance to the common Welfare: Whereas your Petitioners are firmly persuaded, that an Oath was instituted by God himself, as the surest Bond of Fidelity among Men, and hath been esteemed and found so to be, by the Wissom and Experience of all Nations, in all Ages.

BUT that which chiefly moves your Petitioners to apply to your Lordships, is, their serious Concern, hest the Minds of good Men should be grieved and wounded, and the Enemies of Christianity triumph, if they should see such Condescentious made, by a Christian Legislature, to a Self of Men, who renounce the Divine Institutions of Christ, particularly Thou by which the Fairbful are initiated into his Religion, and denominated Christians; and who cannot, on this Account, according to the uniform Judgment and Practice of the Catholick Church, he deem'd worthy of that sacred Name.

YOUR Petitioners do moreover crave Leave to sepresent to your Lordships, That, upon the best In-

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Information they can gain, the Instances wherein any Quaker hath refused the folern Affirmation prescribed by an Act in the Seventh and Eighth of William III. have, from the passing that Act to this Day, been exceeding rare; so that there might be Ground to hope, that the continued Use of the said folern Affirmation would, by Degrees, have cured that People of all those unreasonable Prejudices against an Osthe which the Favour design'd them by their Bill may tend to Strengthen and Confirm.

AND your Petitioners humbly leave it to your Lordships wise Deliberation, Whether such an extraordinary Indulgence, granted to a People already (as is conceived) too Numerous, may not contribute to multiply their Self, and tempt Persons to profess themselves Quakers, in order to be exempted from the Obligation of Oaths, and to stand upon a Foot of Privilege not allow d to the best Christians and Subjects in the Kingdom.

YOUR Petitioners therefore humbly hope, that these, and other Considerations which may offer themselves to your Lordships great Wisdom, may induce your Lordships not to give your Consent to the passing this Bill into a Law.

And your Petitioners shall ever pray, &c.



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Die Merourij 17° Die Januarij 1721. A MOTION being made, That the Said Petition be rejekted? After Debate,

THE Question was put, Whether the said Petition shall be rejected? It was resolved in the Affirmative.

Diffentient,

I. DECAUSE the Right of Petitioning, in a D legal Manner, to legal Purposes, does we apprehend, appertain by Law and Ufage, to the Free People of this Realm; and is as effential to the Subject, acting within his due Bounds, as the Liberty of Debate is to the Constitution of Parliament. And this Right, as it extends to the Petitioning even for the Repeal of Acts now in Force, by which the People think themselves aggrieved; so it justifies them yet more, in representing their humble Sense of any new Law, while it is under the Consideration of Parliament. Nor are the Clergy, we presume, less privileged in Relation to the Exercise of this Right, than any other of His Majesty's Subjects: On the contrary, we believe them as worthy of enjoying, and as capable of exerting it to wife and good Ends, as any Rank of private Men in the Kingdom.

II. BECAUSE the Petition rejected, is, in our Opinion, proper and inoffensive, both as to the Matter and Manner of it: Since it partly relates to the peculiar Rights of the Clergy in point of Tythes, and partly expresses their Fears, (as we conceive, not altogether groundless) less the Sect of Quakers, already too numerous, should, by this new Indulgence, be greatly multiplyed; and less the Honour of Religion should

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should any ways suffer, and the Foundations of Gowernment be shaken by what is intended; both which it is the particular Duty of their Function to uphold and secure. We are not therefore apprehensive, that it misbecame their Characters to interpose on any of these important Points: And the Way in which they have done it, must seem to us free from Exception, till some Passage in their Petition is pitch'd upon as obnoxious, and censured by the House; which, as yet, hath not been done.

III. BECAUSE the Petition suggests a particular Grievance under which the Clergy will suffer by this Ast, more than any other Order of Men; which, as it had never been observed in the Debutes on the Bill, so was allow'd to deserve the Consideration of the House. And therefore, had there been any other Part of their Petition less unexceptionable (as we apprehend, there is not) yet do we not think; that it was reasonable to lay aside the Whole, on that Account, and reject what was acknowledg'd sit to be considered, for the sake of what was thought improper to be offered.

IV. BECAUSE the Clergy of London are not in general so liberally provided for, but that they have Reason to be watchful in Relation to any Step that may unwarily be taken towards diminishing their Maintenance; which we look upon as not duly proportioned to their Labours, in populous Parishes, and to the various Imployments given them by Insidels, and Hereticks, Papists, and divers Sects of Men differenting from the Church established by Law, with which this Metropolis is known to abound. And as

their Situation gives them near Opportunities of obferring and knowing what may be fliered in Parliament
to the Projudice of their Order, so we cannot but
think that it becomes them to make use of that Advantage, in behalf of their distant Brethren, as often
as Need shall require; especially at a Time when the
Representatives of the Clergy are not attending in
Convention, and in a Readiness to exert their known
Right of applying to the Legislature on all such Occasions,

V. BECAUSE the London Clergy, from whence the Petition came, are, in our Opinion, and have been always effectmed, of great Confideration, with Respect to their extensive Influence, and their Ability to be forviceable to the State in important Conjunctures, Brom this Body of Men have proceeded many of the most eminent Lights of the Church, and Ornaments of the Bishops Bench; especially fince the Revolution . and in the Reign preceding it, their never to be-forgotten Labours put a Stop to the Torrent of Popery. then ready to overflow us. On which, and many other Accounts, we cannot but wish, that the Applications at any Time made to this House by the City Clerey, might be received with Regard and Tender. ness; and a more than ordinary Indulgence allow'd them, at a Time, when so great Favours are about to be bestowed on the professed Oppugners of their Function and Maintenance.

VI. BECAUSE by Experience we find, that the treating in this Manner a Perition from any great and considerable Body of Men, is not the best way to allay the Jealousies, and extinguish the Uneasiness that

Nº 33. The TRUE BRITON occasioned it; a very contrary Effect having followed (according to the best of our Observation) from the rejecting a Petition larely offered by the City of Lon don, And the offner fisch Inflances are repeated, the more, we fear, the Disaffection of the People will increase, who thinking themselves under Hardhips from which they defire to be relieved, may look upon it as a new, and yet greater Hardship, not to be heard. And though the modest and duriful Demeanor of the Clergy should no ways contribute to these Consequences, yet we know not how far this may be the Cafe with respect to their Flocks; to whom their Persons and Characters are dear, and who may, therefore be induced by the Reverence they bear to their Pastors, to express as much Concern on their Account, as they would on their own. For which Reason it was our earnest Desire, that this second, and, in our Opinion dangerous Experiment, might not have been made.

Taking it, they are now altogether releated both from

III. SECAUSE the Packers, as they through the latitudious of Civil, to have they not given even in Residente by Law required of their Relief of His

the Enni und Salphance of an Outie, and adjourned to Weston, Earl of Arran. Trever Uxbridge.
Scarfdale.
St. John de Bletsoe.
Compton.
Guilford. Scarfdale. Bristol. Conningsby: acqu acci Aberdeen a d al Strafford and Section Bathult floor of Saint

Cowper. North and Grey. Montjoy Visc. Windfor. Fr. Roffen.

diffinguilling Marks of Favour.

Die Veneris (9° Jahuari), 1721.

Hodie 3° vice lecta est Billa, Intitled, An Act for Granting the People called Quakers, fuch Forms of Affirmation and Declaration, as may remove the Dissoulties which many of them the under.

The Question was put, Whether this Bill shall pass?

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W. CANT. JO. OXON W WORLD DO 109

I. BECAUSE the Privileges allowed by this Bill to the Quakers, are without Example, and no ways proportioned to the Steps formerly taken towards a gradual Indulgence of them. For, whereas they have been hitherto under the real Obligation of an Oath, though dispensed with as to some Formalities, with respect to the Manner of Working and Taking it, they are now altogether released both from the Form and Substance of an Oath, and admitted to profess Fidelity, and give Testimony, upon their simple Assimation: Nor are these Great Privileges indulged to them (as the Less were) from Time to Time, and by Degrees, but are at once made perpetual.

II. BECAUSE we look upon the Quakers, who reject the Two Sacraments of Christ, and are, as far as they so do, unworthy of the Name of Christians, to be on that Account, unworthy also of receiving such distinguishing Marks of Favour.

III. BECAUSE the Quakers, as they renounce the Institutions of Christ, so have they not given even the Evidence by Law required of their Belief of His Divi-

Divinity: It no ways appearing to us (or do we bes lieve it can be made appear) that ever fince they were first indulged [ t W. and M.] one Quaker in an Hundred hath subscribed the Profession of Christian Belief directed by that Act i nor could we, upon a Motion made in the House, prevail, that they should even now be obliged by fuch previous Subscription, to intitle themselves to the new and extraordinary Fayours defigned them. The Confequence of which must, in our Opinion, be, That they will encourage themselves yet farther in their Aversion to subscribe that Profession of Christian Belief; which they feem more to decline, than even the taking of an Oath; fince great Numbers of them have fworn, though very few have fubscribed that Profession. Nor are we without Apprehensions, that it may reflect some Difhonour on the Christian Faith, if the Evidence given by fuch Persons on their bare Word, shall by Law be judged of equal Credit with the folemn Oath of an acknowledged Christian, and sincere Member of the Established Communion.

IV. BECAUSE we look upon it as highly unreasonable, that, in a Kingdom where the Nobles, the Clergy and Commons, are obliged to swear Fealty to the Crown, and even the Sovereign Himself takes an Oath at his Coronation; a particular Sect of Mens who refuse to serve the State, either as Civil Officers, or Soldiers, should be intirely released from that Obligation: Since 'tis natural to expect, that Persons thus indulged, as to the Manner of Professing, and the Measure of Personning their Allegiance, should, by Degrees, be induced totally to withdraw it, 'till they become as bad Subjects as Christians.

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V. BECAUSE though fuch extraordinary Privileges are allowed to the Sect of Quakers by this Bill, vet there is no Mark or Test prescribed by it, or by any other Act, by which it may certainly be known who are Quakers, and, consequently, who are, or are not intitled to those Privileges. From whence this Inconvenience may arise, That many not really Quakers, may yet shelter themselves under the Cover of that Name, on purpose to be released from the Obligations of Oaths; it not being, we conceive, in the Power of the Magistrate, as the Bill stands, to oblige any Person to take an Oath, who at the Time of tendering it, shall profess himself a Quaker; So that the Concession now made to that Sect, may prove a great Inlet to Hypocrify and Falfhood, and will naturally tend towards increasing their Numbers; which we rather wish may be every Day diminished.

VI. BECAUSE we do not apprehend that the Quakers, as a Sect, are really under fuch Scruples in Point of an Oath, that it is necessary to ease them by fuch an Act; few of them having, for Five and twenty Years past, fince their Solemn Affirmation (equivalent to an Oath) was enacted, ever refused to comply with it: And, should this have now and then happen'd, yet, when the great Body of any fort of Sectaries are at Ease in their Consciences, the Scruples of a few, we think, ought not to be regarded; especially, if continuing the Law now in Force will probably extinguish those Scruples, and the Repeal of it will certainly give new Life and Strength to them.

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VII. BECAUSE the Security of the Subject's Property, which depends upon Testimony, seems to us to be lessened by this Act; the Reverence of an Oath having been always observed to operate farther towards the Discovery of Truth, than any other less solemn Form of Asseveration. Nor can the Quakers be excepted in this Case, whose awful Apprehensions of an Oath appear from their earnest Endeavours to decline it. And therefore, where the Payment of Tythes, by them held to be finful, is concerned, they will have from Inducements to disguise the Truth in what they simply affirm, rather than wound their Consciences and Credit, by contributing towards the Support of fuch an Antichristian Payment. In other Cases of Property, their Interest only will clash with their Veracity; but the Double Motive of Interest and Conscience, will influence them with respect to the Clergy, whose Calling and Maintenance they equally condemn.

VIII. BECAUSE the Inducement, mentioned in the Bill, towards granting the Quakers these Farwours, That they are well Affected to the Government; (a Position of which we have some Doubt) might, we apprehend, be improved into a Reason for granting like Favours to Deists, Arians, Jews, and even to Heathens themselves; all of which may possibly be as some of them certainly are, Friends to the Government. However their Friendship, we presume, would be cultivated at too great an Expence, if for the sake of it, any thing should be done by the Legislature; which might weaken the Security of all Governments; an Oath; and, by that Means, do more Mischief to the

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the State, in one respect, than it brought Advantage in another. And we the rather thus chuse to reason, because an Argument was urged in the Debate, and no ways disallowed, That is Heathers themselves were equally of Use to the State, as the Quakers are, they ought also equally by Law to be indulged: Whereas our firm Persuasion is, That as no Man sould be persecuted for his Opinions in Religion, so neither should any Man, who is known to avow Principles destructive of Christianity, however useful he may etherwise be to the State, be encouraged, by a Law purposely made in his Favour, to continue in those Principles.

W. Ebor.
Fr. Roffen.
Gower.
Montjoy Visc. Windsor.
Strafford.
F. Cestriens.

St. John de Bletsoe. Salisbury. Aberdeen. Trevor. Compton.



Tr



# TRUE BRITON.

NUMB. XXXIV.

Quod stulti proprium? Non posse & velle nocere.

AUSON.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 27. 1723.



E shall give the following Letter a Place in this Paper, and, provided our Fair Correspondent keeps the Conditions she prescribes to herself for the future, shall not scruple to acknowledge

the Favour of her Letters: But Conciseness is what must be insisted on, because of the Wretchedness of the Subject wherewith she proposes to sully her fair Fingers.

To the Author of the TRUE BRITON.

Dear SIR,

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THINK the Method you take of despising your stupid Adversaries, is intirely worthy of the True Briton: But yet I cannot sorbear having some Compassion for the poor Creatures, to see how dully they

they labour to merit your Notice, and beg the Means of Life at your Hands. I am told by one of my Admirers, That those few Coffee-Houses, where the Beneficence of their Paymasters encourages People to take in their Papers, are quite tyr'd out with the Daily Complaints made of them; and that the very Persons who are hir'd to inquire for them in Bublick, in order to make 'em noted, are asham'd to ask for tem, lest all the Gentlemen round should judge of

THIS, good Sir, is certainly enough to exasperate against you Persons of more Wit, and less Temper than your Antagonists seem to be. They repine in Secret, I am told, at your Neglect of 'em: And tother Day, in a dark Corner of a certain Cossee. Room neat St. James's, the motly Crew of Sycophants and Blunderers got together, and were over heard to mutter out their Discontents and Despair.

their Intellects by the Choice of their Papers.

AN abandon'd Wretch, who bears in his very Face the Stamp of Villain and Apostate, and seems peculiarly branded as well by the transcendant Ugliness of his Person, as the still more hideous Desormity of his Mind, which has long display'd itself in ridiculing every thing Divine and Humane, began the Condolerance with his Fellow-Labourers Ams-Ace the expell'd Poetaster, and Stupid the Publican, who were accompany'd with their good Ally and Confederate Pam', a late exploded Prologue-monger, and several Eves-droppers and Informers, who make up this diminutive Cabal. In Bitterness of Heart he curst your Contempt of their Papers, and declared, that their Grand Patron was determined to withdraw their Salar

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ries, if they could shew no greater Merit than they had hitherto done for continuing them.

THEN frightfully grinning, with violent Execrations, he vociferated, Is there fuels a Difference between Men and Men, that I who have endeavour'd to confound all Orders and Distinctions in the World, and have my Itinerant Name on Record in all Places necessary to preserve its villainous Existence, should not be able to provoke this d—n'd Author to take the least Notice of us. Our Business would be done if be would but once name us in his accursed Paper. But (continued he with his usual Imprecations) I am out of all Patience, when I look upon our Headless Paper, and see, by the Indulgence of our Patrons, Lx odd, and still scribling on, and no manner of Likelibood that we shall ever be remember'd for a single Tear to come.

Ams-Ace, thrugging his Shoulders, answer'd, I bave the Misfortune, indeed, tobenever I quit my folitary Garret, and prowl among the Human Species in Search of Food, to bear every living Creature condemns our Luckless Performance, and have long despair & of meriting the promised Rewards, and so must fink un-Supported and undiffinguist'd into Oblivion. But as for you Mr. Grim, and Mr. Stupid, ye bave already, in Part, reap'd the Rewards of your Inborn Malice and Dulness, and the Ex-r and Ex-e contribute comfortably to your Subfiftance. And as for our younger Brother Pam', he will be happy enough, if he can but be read and allow'd to bouft his stupid Folly among the Templers at Dick's, and so be presum'd 30 Years hence capable to draw a Deed to secure to his Bookseller the Property of his future Lucubrations.

ROO HALLUAA But

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But I, who have tyr'd out all Mankind from my Patron Bl—t, to the meanest Coffee Man, am doom'd, I see, to be the most miserable of all Hackney Drudges!

THE Dialogue was interrupted by the coming in of a certain Courtier, on whom the whole Gang voraciously fasten'd for a Dinner.

I BEG Pardon, Sir, for hoping you will infert this in your Paper, as well as for a farther Request I have to make to you. - And that is, - You fee, Sir, the Writers and their Cause are well match'd. 'Tis impossible they should hurt you with their impotent Malice, and yet you may, without concerning your felf about them, do the poor Creatures great Service. and keep them from Starving, if (as fometimes you entertain the Town with the Letters of your Admirers) you will be pleased to commit these doughty Champions to the Correction of myself and a Lady of my Acquaintance. I'll affure you, Sir, in Pity to them, we will spare 'em a little now and then, and not take too much Advantage of their Ignorance and Blunders: And we will endeavour at the fame time to be fo concife, as not to hinder better Entertainment: For a Letter once a Week or a Fortnight, Heaven knows! may eafily comprehend all that is worthy even of a Woman's Notice in all the Three Papers, and be comprized in very few Lines too. If this Proposal obtain not your Approbation, I hope it may merit your Excuse, the only Motive for it being mere Christian Charity. For I can't be thought to propose to my self any Honour in triumphing over such weak Wretches.

I am, SIR,
Your Conftant Reader and Admirer,

ATHALIAH DORMANT.

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#### To the TRUE BRITON.

Hampton, September 16. 1723.

THE Antiquity and Noble Acts of my Ancestors, are so well known to the True Briton, that I cannot doubt of his generously giving his Opinion, when he reslects on the mean Circumstances we are reduced to, and how difficult it is to have Advice, without large Fees.

I HAVE a small Farm, which intitles me to vote for a Knight of the Shire, and am summoned to take the New-fashioned Oaths; in them I found Three hard Words, which neither the Constable nor I underflood. We went to the nearest Justice, and defired him to tells us, What Allegiance was? I observ'd he look'd out of Humour; but after some Time, told us, That Allegiance was Allegiance. I defigned to beg a clearer Answer, but his Clerk whisper'd, That Allegiance was an Out-Landish Word; That his Master was of the Quorum; and that I must behave with more Respect. I bowed very Low, and intreated his. Honour to tell me, What Supremacy was? He immediately answered, She is the Whore of Babylon. I was mighty glad to find his Opinion fo positive in that Point; for I could, with a fafe Conscience, swear, that I would never knowingly or voluntarily go into her Company; and do, on the Faith of a Christian, believe, that all my Relations are of the fame Mind in this Article; for we are known to be a very Chast Family. Then I humbly intreated his Honour to tell me, Who Abjuration was? I eafily

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faw (by the throwing down his Pipe) I had asked another hard Question: But after some Consideration, he told me, That Abjuration was for-swearing the Devil and all his Works; You may be affured, Sir, I was intirely satisfied with this Answer; and if you can give me as clear a Notion of Allegiance, I shall go to the Sessions with a safe Conscience, and morry Heart; and to the Right Worshipful Bench declare, That Loyalty and True Friendship are Bred (if nor Bern) with

the New fashioned Cashessin them I sometry by the hard words, which next to the feet of the feet of the went to the new of jettice, and desired him to tells us. What forest or was the above of him to tells us. What

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# TRUE BRITON.

#### NUMB. XXXV.

Quales ex humili magna ad fastigia rerum Evexit, quoties voluit fortuna jocari?

JUV.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBE 30. 1723.



HOEVER feriously considers the Revolutions of past Times, and the restless Ambition of Princes and Great Ministers in all Ages, will find abundant Reason to admire the Providence

of God confpicuous in the several Changes which will naturally occur to Thought from so ample a Field for Reflexion.

A MINGLED Disdain and Compassion will result from these Considerations, with regard to the present Race of Statesmen in most Nations, when compared with the Heroes of Old; And even the very Princes themselves, in the several Kingdoms abroad, must appear in a very disadvantageous Light when they are brought into Competition with the Alexanders and Casars, the Trajans and Constantines of Antiquity.

HOW Noble and Useful a Study is that of HISTORY, which at one View presents the Rise. Fortunes and Catastrophes of the most eminent Persons; and at the same Time that it records the Good or Bad Actions of past Ages, instructs the present to imitate the First, and avoid the Last!

THE Rife, Progress and Declension of the several Great Monarchies of the World, afford numberless Instances of the Mutability of Fortune, and the Vanity of all Humane Policies; which may serve Posterity as so many Sea. Marks to shun the Rocks on which the Great Men who have gone before, have so mise rably been dash'd in Pieces.

THE most dangerous of all Passions is Ambition, or an inordinate Defire of Rule and Dominion; and this Appetite is never fo pernicious to a People, and, in its Consequences, to the Persons actuated by it, as when Obscure and Low-minded Men are raised by the Fai your of the Prince to unmerited Grandeur. We shall often find in the Conduct of a Man Nobly Descended, fuch Greatness and Generosity of Soul, as shews him born to be a Jewel in his Prince's Crown, and a Bleffing to his Native Country. But as the first Rife of the Plebeian is generally owing to the Sport of Fortune, or some particular Exigence of State, or the Caprice of the Prince, fo his Empire in the Affections of his Master, is frequently improved and preserved by administring to His Luxuries and Pleasures, which too generally are opposite, and often fatal to the Liberties of the Subject.

SUCH a Minister, as his Soul was not form'd for so exalted a Sphere, generally becomes giddy in it, and in Imitation of the blind Deity that had the greatest Share in his own Rise, generally scatters his Favours to Persons the most underserving and most like to himself, and levels all his Rage and Fury at the Men who have Virtue enough to endeavour to stem the Torrent of his Vices, and to prevent the pernicious Consequences of his wicked Administration. And indeed the whole Tenor of his Actions naturally declares him at mortal Enmity with all Virtuous Men.

HIS Ambition increases with his Power, his Avarice with his Wealth, and his Insolence with both. Being arrived at the Highest Pitch of Grandeur, he grows restless and tumultuous as the stormy Ocean: Like an Eccentrick Planet he threatens Destruction to all around him; and is so impatient of Opposition, as to have Recourse to any Methods to destroy and ruin every Person he imagines capable to stand in the Way of his Arbitrary Motions.

HAMAN Lord in Power (as Abasuerus was in Name) of One hundred twenty seven Provinces, raised to the exalted Height of Prime Minister to his Prince, and to be the Companion of his Pleasures, was an Illustrious Instance of the Pride and Revenge of such Ambitious Favourites. Observing that Mordecai the Jew, among the Croud of his servile Worshippers, paid him not that Reverence which he exacted from all the World, sound as much Disturbance from so contemptible an Occasion, as he could possibly have felt from the greatest Disappointment in the Instancy of his Power; and to revenge the Indignity, procured Edists

KINGDOMS and States have been always influenc'd by the Examples of their Governors; and according to the Genius of the Prince, the Manners of the People, and the Views of the Great Men, have been laudable or otherwise.

declares him ar mortal Espain

THE successive Reigns of the First, Second and Third Edwards, and the Second Richard, afford notable Instances of the Truth of this Observation. The English Glory was raised to a very high Pitch of Grandeur in the Reign of the Martial Prince Edward I. who triumph'd over all his Enemies, and added Wales and Scotland to the English Empire. In his Reign we read of no Parasites or Sycophants, to intercept the Favours of the Sovereign from his People. That Glorious Prince was equally the Monarch of his Ministers as of his Dominions, and gave, not received Laws as well to the Greatest, as the Meanest of his Subjects.

TO the unhappy Caernarvon he left his Dominions, and a Situation of Affairs very Glorious and Advantageous.

## Nº 35. The TRUE BRITON.

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tageous. But he could not transfer to him his Soul and his Conduct; and the Inglorious Reign of this inactive indolent Prince debas'd the English Name, as greatly as his illustrious Father had exalted it. Evil Ministers sprang up from the Weakness of the King? and the profligate Peirce Gaveston Lorded it as well over the Queen, and all the Nobility of the Land, as the Affections of his Master; and the Treasure of the Kingdom and the Properties of the Subject became Sacrifices to the Tyranny of this wicked Favourite. The Soots took up Arms, and discomfitted his Forces, the headed by himfelf: Inundations, Famines, Peltilences were the Scourges of his Reign; and when this infamous Minion was taken off by a violent Death. the King gave up himself and his Kingdom to be plunder'd by the Two Spengers, whose Pride and Rapine were to unbounded, that many good Subjects withed rather to be plagued, with Gavelon again. At last their Exorbitances ended in an ignominious Death. and the Deposition and Murder of their Unfortunate Two Maffuline Reigns, by the Weaknesof the reflam

TO him succeeded the Victorious Edward III. who again retrieved the Glory of the English Nation, and made ample Reparation for the Blemishes of his Father's Reign. This Masculine Prince, in the very Instancy of his Age as well as Reign, gave happy Omens of his future Resolution and Capacity for Government in seizing on the Person of Mortimer the Favourite and Minion of the Queen his Mother, and sacrificing him to the Manes of his Murder'd Father, to the Resentment of a violated Nobility, and to appear the Clamours of an inraged injur'd Commonalty. He with his Glorious Son the Prince of Wales, the Companion

of his greatest Exploits, triumph'd over all his Ene. mies Abroad, and reign'd in the Affections of all his Subjects at Home: Nor was there a Minister of State known for the greatest Part of his 50 Years Reign who pursued any other View, than the Glory of his Prince and the Good of his Country; so great was the Benefit of the Example of this Victorious Monarch.

FAR unworthy of the Reign of his Grandfather, or the Noble Deeds of his Renowned Father, were those of Richard II. whose Weakness again produc'd the Rise of Parasites and Favourites, who by Degrees alienated the Affections of the Subjects from their Royal Master, and treading in the usual Steps of all over-grown Ministers, push'd the King on violent Counsels, and never ceased their Evil Practices, till they brought Destruction on themselves, and involved their Sovereign in their Ruine; who was deposed and basely murder'd, and his Crown became the Inheritance of another Race of Princes: Who also, after Two Masculine Reigns, by the Weakness of the Third, lost the Crown and Empire to their braver Enemies.

IT is not my Intention to enumerate the Miscarriages which are to be met with in the English History, resulting from the Weakness of former Princes, and the selfish Views of designing Ministers. I would only observe for the present, That what the Spencers, the Gavestons, and Mortimers have done in some Reigns to aggrandize themselves at the Expence of their Countries, and to the Abuse of their Masters, have been practised in others by the Dudleys, the Carrs and the Villiers. And if we look Abroad, we shall find no less pregnant Instances in other Nations;

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tions; and in particular the Guife's in Drance, and the Alva's the Ferdinando's, the Simon's and the Caco-fogo's in: Spain, in the last Gentury, not to mention other neighbouring Countries, are kept in Countenance by the Practices of divers Great Men that now preside in the Cabinets of certain Foreign Princes: With

whose Characters the Historians of the next Age will no doubt, be as free and impartial, as we of the present are with those of their Predecessors.

IT may merit farther Observation, That although the Power of those Grandees was capable to varnish over, for a while, their heinous Grimes; and that there were not wanting Parasites and Flatterers to resemble their Patrons to the Greatest and Best Patriots of preceding Ages, yet many of 'em liv'd to see the Time when their Actions were exposed in their proper Colours, and they were obliged in a Moment, as it were, to disgorge the Plunder of an Age; and then the lofty Fabrick which for many Years they had been rearing to the Glouds, and whose Walls were founded on the Fortunes, and comented with the Blood of their Opposers, was at once rumbled down and laid level with the Dust, and themselves and Families bury'd in its Ruins.

UPON the Whole, this useful Reflexion will necessarily result: That howsever formidable and menacing for a Time the Power of wicked Favourites has been to the Constitution of the Kingdom and Liberties of the Subject, and whatsoever Snares they have laid for the Ruin of their bravest Opposers, it has, sooner or later, pleased the Divine Providence to retribute upon their own Heads their evil Practices;

The TRUE BRITON. Nº 35. 304 and no Examples are more frequent in History, than those of Great Men made Sacrifices after the very fame Manner, and by the fame Precedents whereby they have endeavour'd their own Security, and the Defination of their Adverfaries. For it has been generally found, That vindictive Precedents are dangerous Weapons, which carry a double Bage, one for their Contrivers, as well as another for the devoted Sa crifice, and ought therefore to be equally avoided

both in Policy and Humanity.

IN a Word, MODERATION is a Leffon. of all others, the most Useful and Necessary to Men in Power. They are placed aloft on the Pub. lick Theatre of Action, and all their Deeds will be fcann'd with impartial, and, perhaps, unfavourable Eyes: Grandeur naturally creates Envy; and though Great Men, as has been already observed, never want their Flatterers and Adorers, even amongst the greateft Characters; yet as these Parasires are only the Creatures of Power, to when that declines they naturally fall off, and to clear themselves, ace generally the bufielt Actors in the Tragedies of their late credulous Patrons bury'd in its Ruins.



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charged from the nice firm whigations of the State, as before they were exempted from all lieutellation in

# TRUE BRITON

### NUMB. XXXVI.

Et mala funt vicina bonis, errore sub illo Pro vitio virtus crimina sæpe tulit.

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#### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4. 1723.

HE following Letter from the Cleneleman who in our former Papers
thiles himself On the poor, seems
to be written with so good a Design,
as insides him to that distinguishing

Character, and at the same Time, claims a Place in this Paper, in the Manner he himself is pleased to desire: It being impossible but the Subject must be invirely agreeable to all who have at Heart the Honour of our Excellent Church and Constitution; and in the impartial Manner he proposes, cannot be offensive to any True Briton.

To the Author of the TRUE BRITON.

SIR.

HAVING in Two former Letters instanced the restless Struggles of one Sect of Differenters from the Establish'd Church, in order to be discharged from the necessary Obligations of the State, as before they were exempted from all Ecclesissical Jurisdiction, I shall in this take the Liberty to set in a proper Light the Conduct of other principal Separatiss; Whereby it will soon appear, that they come not behind their Brethren the Quakers in their Behaviour to the Church, though their Consciences are not now altogether so squeamish with regard to the State.

with my present Design, to enter into the sull Merits of this Cause, or to describe the numberless seets into which the Church has been torn and divided by the Wilfulness and Pride of every Pretender to Reformation, when the latest Reformer disclaining the Methods of the preceding, set up a Form and Discipline of his own, and contended for it to be the Purest, as his Scheme was most distant from Conformity with the Church of Rome. My Intention is only from Authentick Vouchers to trace Historically the Rise of the principal Sects, and deduce an Account of their Practices and Pretences to the present Time, without Investive or Partiality, and with all possible Brevity.

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THE Limits of a fingle Letter will not, however, be fufficient for this Purpose, and I shall therefore send in two or three, what results to my Pen from this Subject, leaving it to your Choice whether you will be pleased still to abridge them for one Paper, or give 'em more Room: Which I could almost flatter my self in the Hopes of, when I consider, that the Promoting the Cause of the Purest Church and Best Constitution in the World, is one avowed Design of your Excellent Paper.

IN the very Year (1541) that Ignatius Loyala was folemnly first chosen General of the Jesuits Order, which he had founded, did John Calvin, after infinite Struggles, that had brought upon him a Three Years Exile, confirm his rigorous and arbitrary Discipline in Geneva, having first, by indirect Methods, obtain'd the Opinion of the Helvetian Churches in his Favour, against an Appeal to them by the Magistrates of that City, who beginning to find they had expelled one Pope to make Room for another, exerted themselves against him? By this Means having in a manner, made himself both Supreme Magistrate and Bishop of that Territory, he proceeded to extend his Dominion over the whole Reformation: And to shew what the World was to expect from Presbytery, began to intermeddle with the Affairs of other Churches, and to prescribe his Discipline with so high a Hand, as if he was determined to arrogate to himfelf equal Authority to that pretended by the Roman Pontiff; " 'till at length, " (as the excellent Hooker observes) the Discipline " which was at the first so weak, that without the Staff of their Approbation who were not subject X 3 " unto

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" unto it themselves, it had not brought others under " Subjection, began now to challange This ver lat Obedience, and to enter into open Canflict with those very Churches, which, in desperate Extremity had " been Relievers of it. " And in thefo its Infant Days of Power, to so insolent a Height was it arrived that one of Calvin's Disciples, desiring to have Leave to dispute publickly at Heidelburgh, the Church whereof at that Time was both the Ornament and Bulwark of the Reformation, in Defiance both of Church and Government, he prefumed to affert, That to a Minister with his Eldership, Power is given by the Law of God, to excommunicate whomfeever, year even Kings and Princes themselves, A Claim which had been to enormous in the Pope I and to which, however, they had frequent Recourse both in Plea and Practice, as will abundantly appear in the Mediods, obtain'd the Opinion of the HellsupaS Charlist in his levour, againgt an Arrest to there

1 T is much to be doubted whether Enthufiafm, Arrogance or Hypoerify had the greater Prevalence in their further Progress. But it was always observable, That they were the most infolent Set of Men that ever appeared in the World to all Lawful Authority. and at the same Time, the basest Fawners and eringing Sycophants to the Meanest among the Commonalty, as if they had fet out avowedly to file in troubled Waters, and to promote Sedition and Rebellion, by holding at their Disposal the Affections of the baser Sort, and defying Princes. But not much better could be expected from the Followers of a Man who founded his rigid Discipline and usurped Authority, on the Deposition and Banishment of the Lawful Sovereign of Geneva, and prescribed and inforced those .

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Subjects which they never hore from their expulsed. Prince? And here I cannot do better than to transcribe from the above mentioned pious Author a few Instances of what I have afferted relating to their Hypeerify and Arregance.

ies of their Fastites, they bed Ways to lie be one Where they found Men in Diet, Attire, Furniture of House, or any other Way, Observers of Civility, and decent Order; fuch they reproved as carnally and earthly-minded. If any Man were pleafant, they would repeat with Sighs those Words of our Saviour, Wee to you which now laugh, for ye hall lament. So great was their Delight to be always in Trouble, that they deemed those who loved quiet Lives, to be in most dangerous Case. So opposite to Gustom, that when others appeared abroad in their best Attire, they would always shew themselves in the worst. Thought it Prophaneness to call the Days of the Week by their ordinary Names, and would diffinguish them only by Numbers. Infifted, that fince the Apostles Days, the Truth was never before fincerely taught. Thought no other Writings in the World should be Audied but the Scripture; fo that one of their Prohers exhorting them to cast away all Respects to Humane Writings; all that had any Books besides the Bible, committed them publickly to the Flames. When they and their Bibles were alone together, what fantaftical Opinion foever enter'd their Heads, they thought the Spirit taught them. Their refless Levity they interpreted to their growing in Spiritual Perfection, and from Faith to Faith. By this Means, their Differences with themselves grew in-X 4 finite,

Ministers are wicked Idolaters, tewd Persons,
Thieves, and Murderers, cursed Creatures, ignorant
Beasts; and also for that to baptize belongeth to
the Church of Christ only, whereas Rome is Antichrist's Synagogue, &c. They presumed to innovate the sacrad Scriptures themselves; thinking it
not safe to mention either Bedy or Blood in the
Sacrament, but to abrogate both, and to use no
Words but these, Take, eat, declare the Death of
our Lord. Drink, shew forth our Lord's Death. The
pretended End of their Civil Reformation was, that
Christmight have Dominion over all; that no other
might reign over Christian Men but He; and no

Sword be carry'd but His, the Sword of Spiritual

Excom-

Excommunication. For this Cause they incessantly labour'd to overturn the Seats of Magistery; in abolishing the Execution of Justice, because Christ hath said, Resist not Evil; in FORBIDDING OATHS, the necessary Means of Judicial Toyal, because Christ hath said, Swear not at all; Finally, being then poor and despicable themsolves, they labour'd to promote a Community of Goods, because Christ by his Apostles hath given such an Example, to the End that Men might excel one another, not in Wealth, but in Virtue.

THESE Men at the first, (continues my excellent Author) were only pity'd in their Error, and not much withflood by any; The great Humility, · Zeal and Devotion which appeared to be in them, was, in all Mens Opinion, a Pledge of their Harmless Meaning. The hardest that Men of found Understanding conceived of them, was but this; O quam honesta voluntate miseri errant! With how good a Meaning do these poor Souts do Evil! Luther made Request to the Duke of Saxony, that within his Dominions they might be favourably dealt with and spared; for that their (Error exempted) they feemed otherwise right good Men. By means of which merciful Toleration, they gathered Strength much more than was fafe for the State in which they ! lived. They had their fecret Meetings and Affemblies in the Night, the People flocking to them by Thousands. The Means whereby they both allured and retained so great Multitudes, were most effectual :

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FIRST, A wonderful Shew of Zeal towards God, wherewith they seemed to be even supe in every Thing they spake the control of the said and shad the

Love of Integrity, which Men did think to be much shore than ordinary in them, by Reason of the Custom which they had to fill the East of the People with INVECTIVES against their Authorized Guides, as well SPIRATOUAL as CIVIL.

they eased the broken Estate of such needy Creating of the more apt to be drawn aways have a such as a such a such such to be

FOURTHLY, A tender Compassion which they were thought to take upon the Miseries of the Common Sort, over whose Heads their Manner was even to pour down Showers of Tears in complaining. That no Respect was had unto them; That their Goods were devoured by wicked Cormorants; Their Persons had in Contempt; All Liberty, both Spiritual and Temporal, taken from them; That it was high Time for God now to hear their Groans, and to send them Deliverance.

LASTLY, A cunning Sleight which they had to stroke and smooth up the Minds of their Followers, as well by appropriating unto them all the favourable Titles, the good Words, and the gracious Promises in Scripture; as also by casting the contrary always on the Heads of their Opposites.

WHEREUPON the Peoples common Acclamations unto such Deceivers, were: These are verify the Men of God! These are bis true and sincere Prophets! And if such pretended Prophets suffer de the Law, either for Felony, Rebellion or Murder, or any other Crime, the People lamented, that God took away his most dear Servants from them, and exclaimed as if St. Stephen had been again matter?

This excellent Author then judiciously observes, That it is impossible for the Wit of Man to imagine, what will grow out of such Errors as go masked under the Cloak of Divine Authority, will Time hath brought forth the Fruits of them: For which Cause says he, it behoveth Wistom to seat the Sequels thereof, even beyond all apparent Cause of Fear. He then proceeds to give Instances of the Instability of those Men proceeding from one Vice to another, and of their perverting the very Scriptures to defend their Violences and Errors.

first sounded nothing but Mortiscation of the Flesh, were come at length to think they might lawfully have Six or Seven Wives apiece. They who at first thought Justice itself to be merciles Cruelty, accounted at length their own Hands to be faultify who at first were wont to beat down all Dominion, had at length both Consuls and Kings amongst them felves. Finally, They who at first could not brook that any Man should seek the Recovery of Goods injuriously taken or with held from him, no not

by Law, were now grown to think they could not offer to God a more acceptable Sacrifice, than by turning their Adversaries out of House and Home, and by inriching themselves with all kind of Spoil and Pillage. Which Things being laid to their Charge, they had in Readiness their Answer, That now the Time was come, when, according to our Saviour's Promise, The MEEK ONES must inherit the Earth; and that their Title to their Neighbours Goods was the same which the righteous Israelites had to those of the wicked Egyptians.

HE then proceeds to take Notice of their Opinion, then newly broach'd, of the Unlawfulness of taking. Oaths, lest they should turn to the Molestation of their Bretbren; 'The next Neighbour Opinion whereunto, 'says he, when Occasion requireth, may follow for Dispensation with Oaths already taken.' And then he breaks out into this elegant Exclamation: 'O. merciful God! What Man's Wit, is there able to so found the Depth of those dangerous or fearful Evils whereinto our weak and impotent Nature is inclinable to fink it self, rather than to shew an Actionable to fink it self, rather than to shew an Actionable dangerous, as it were, of a contrary Publick Resolution!

THIS short Abstract taken from the inimitable Preface to Hooker's Ecclesiastical Polity, (to which I refer for a suller Account) will be sufficient to show the Rise and Principles of these Religion-Brokers.

My next, (in as concise a Manner as the Subject will bear)

N° 36. The TRUE BRITON. 315 bear) shall proceed to give an Authentick History of their Transactions; whereby it will appear that their Constant Practice has demonstrated all that has been here said of 'em, and much more, to be true.

Iam, SIR.

Your Admirer and Humble Servant,

ORTHODOX.

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# TRUE BRITON.

NUMB. XXXVII.

Quod licet ingratum est, quod non licet acrius urit.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7. 1723.

#### To the TRUE BRITON.

SIR.



AVING in my last given some Account of the Principles and first Settings out of the Differents of different Denominations, I shall now, without farther Introduction or Apology, pro-

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ceed to shew how conformable their Practices have always been to their Beginning, confining myself to the Kingdoms of England and Scotland, although I might easily evince, that the same Causes have constantly produced the same Effects in all other Countries where ever they appear'd.

an Order given in the Reign of Edward VI. to Archbishop

#### Nº 37. TWOTRUE BRITON.

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bishop Graumer, Bishop Ridley, and other Prelates, to draw up a Form for administring the Sacrament in both kinds, then he posted away Letters to England, officiously to offer his Assistance. But those pious Prelates knowing the Temper of the Man, and how pragmatically he had behaved himself where ever he had been suffered to intermedele, and having no Reason to conceive so good an Opinion of his Abilities, or so ill a one of their own, as if they could not do without him; and knowing besides that he differed in some Dostrinal Points from all the Antient Fathers, and had obtended upon the Church of God such a Discipline as was never heard of in Antiquity; excused themselves, with the greatest Civility and Condescension, from accopting his Offer.

Sieen were alfa fresh in her Mentory, who THE Geneva Portiff hereupon feem'd determined to oppose and decry the English Reformation, and for that purpose bestirred himself to influence Martin Bucer and Peter Martyr, (Two learned Foreigners fent for over to England) the latter of whom he found pretty much at his Devotion, and by that Means, he and his violent Disciple and Suggesson Beza, found Opportunity to lay the Foundations of the Schifen which has fince so miserably divided the English Church. For Brevity fake, Lahall passover their frequent Attempts to introduce their Discipline, and the Disturbances given to Queen Elizabeth by Calvin, Beza, Know, and their Disciples, quite contrary to the Opinion and Christian Moderation of those far more eminent Reformers, Bullinger and Gualter; their violent' Artacks upon the Episcopal Dignity, and Endeavours to fet up Presbytery above Church and State; their Disputes of the Queen's Authority, tho' affifted

The TRUE BRITON! affifted by the Parliament, to decree Rites and Ceres monies; the almost blasphemous Manner of their afferting the Doctrine of Predestination; and innumerable other Infolences and high Pretentions, which the Roman Pontiffs, in their greatest Elevation of Power, never exceeded (which shewed their Cotemporary Bretheren the Jesuits had no small Hand in their Proceedings:) From all which, Queen Elizabeth became fully apprized of the violent and untraffable Temper of those Men: She had remarked their Obstinacy in the Reign of her Brother, and could not but observe, that their Principles naturally tended to make themselves independent of the State, and to unhinge the Frame of all Government; and the leveral Instances of Calvin's intemperate Zeal with regard to her late Sister, were also fresh in her Memory, who in one of his Difcourfes had called her, The Queen of Hell, and declared, That the exceeded the very Devils in Hell. Proserpinæ que bodie illic superat omnes Diabolus, are his very Words; and whose Disciples, instead of the Christian Doctrine of Praying for Entmies, openly and frequently prescribed to the Almighty in their Prayers, That be would either turn ber Heart, or plet an End to her Days.

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his Intention, to fill her Mind with Indignation against so set of Men; having, in the Intemperance of his Zeal, written a Letter to Secretary Cecil, traiterously denying the Queen's Right to the Crown on the sole Account of her Sex; but with the most pragmatical Impudence offering to dispense with her Reign, though, as he says, 'twas against the Laws of God that Women should Rule, and to acknowledge her

her Authority, if, disclaiming the Title she claimed according to the Customs; Lows and Ordinances of Men, she would confess, That the extraordinary Dispensations of God's great Mercy did make that lawful in her, which both Nature and God's Laws did deny in all Women besides; threatning her, That if she adhered to her natural Title, such foolish Presumption would grievously offend God's Supreme Majesty; and that her Ingratitude in that kind should not long lack Punishment: And to the Queen herself he afterwards presumed to write, reproaching her, That for sear of her Life, she had declined from God, bowed to Idolatry, and gone to Mass during the Persecution of God's Saints in her Sister's Reign.

THESE Infolences, to openly avow'd and in: fifted on, could not but fill the Mind of that Glorious Queen with a Diflike of their Principles , And finding her determin'd to promote an Uniformity in Wor. Thip, the Brethren turn'd their Eyes towards Scotland : the Affairs of which Kingdom at that Time became so confus'd, as gave those pretended Saints the defired Opportunities to exert themselves, and by pulling off the Mask, to shew the whole World at once, What were their Defigns and Views; That Sedition and Rebellion were the Genuine Fruits of Presbytery; and and that the Exercise of that very Power which they held finful in the Pope, or their Sovereign, or the Bishops, became sanctify'd in their Hands, and their undoubted Right. The Truth whereof, a brief Account of the Transactions of the Kirk of Scotland under the Influences of Know, will fufficiently demonstrate:

AFTER this Incendiary had been forced to flee from Germany for High Treason against the Emperor, wandering about from Geneva backwards and forwards to other Countries, he at last arrived in Scaland, at the Time that that Kingdom was miserably divided by the Contentions amongst the Old Nability, and soon became the Head of a Party, that made itself formidable to the Government, by joining with the Disaffected, and scorning to be subject to the Laws of the State, or any others but those of its own making

THE Queen Regent, at the Beginning of the Reformation, though a Roman Catholick, made no Scruple to allow them the Bible in their own Language: but not being able to escape their virulent Reflections, and they rifing in Tumults against her, and even proceeding to menace her Person, she condescended to their further Demands, upon their Acknowledgment. That the Redress of all Grievances, both Ecclefiaftical and Civil, belonged in Right to ber, and gave them Liberty to use their Prayers and Services in the Vulgar Tongue. But growing from one Degree to another on the Queen's Concessions, The found herfelf obliged to declare, that the could not keep her Promise to People who shew'd that nothing would fatisfy their increasing Demands; Whereupon they affured her to her Face, That they would no longer acknowledge her Authority, but from that Time renounced all Obedience to ber, and accordingly departed in Tumults, and demolished the Monastries and Cathedral Churches at Edinburg, Perth, St. Andrews, Scoon, Sterling and other Places, being animated thereto by Knox, who in a Sermon

for that Purpose incited them from our Saviour's purging the Temple. And in another Sermon preach'd at Craile, he stirred them up to Rebellion, declaring, that no Faith was to be reposed in the Promises of the Queen and that no Tranquility could be experted till one of the Parties was Matter. The People being fir'd with his Seditious Harangues, had immediate Recourse to Arms, and so diffressed the Queen, that the was torged to fly to Dunbar for Safety, and there offered them the free Life of their Religion, except where her Court was ; which not Satisfying the Congregators, as they called themselves, by the Indigation of Kepr and Willock their Minithers, they, contrary to all their former folemn Protestations, both by Letters and Proclamations, deposed the Queen; who not long after, in the Year 1560, dy'd their Brethred in Geneua to determine the bolat in

THEY then procured a Parliament, which abclished the Pope's Authority and the Mass, and ratify defined Confession of Faith, which they sent over to France to be confirmed by their Queen, whose Husband, the French King, dying presently after, they desired her to come over to Scotland, and settle among them. To which that Princess consenting, Knox resolved to make sure Work before her Arrival, and procured an Order for demolishing to the Ground all Abbey-Churches and Clossers, telling them in a Sermon, That the sure Way to banish the Rooks, was to pull down their Ness. And so surjously was this Order executed, that hardly a Church escaped some Tokens of their Rage, being either defaced or definoyed; the very Sepulchres of the Dead were not spared; Holy Vessels, Timber, Lead and Bells,

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were fold; the Registers and Libraries burnt; and, in a Word, the whole Country was coverd with Desolation.

IN 1561. arrived the unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots in her Hereditary Dominions, and that the might gain the Affections of her People, the condescended to the Alterations made in Religion only releaving to herfelf the Privilege of having the UG of her own Service, and Mais in Private. But to far were these turbulent Spirits from being satisfy d with this gracious Condescention, that their Preachers in their Sermons had the Infolence openly to condemn this Liberty of their Sovereign, as intolerable and unlawful, and went so far as to dispute in their Conventicles the Case of Obedience to Princes, and to send to their Brethren in Geneva to determine the Point in their Fayour: And to crown all, they enter'd into an Affociation, whereby they agreed to repute whatever Molestations or Troubles were given to any of their Members, by whom sever, as committed against their whole Body. By which means, several of the Malecontented Nobility join'd with them for Protection. and render'd them still more strong and formidable.

AND now to so great a Height of Impudence and Folly were they arrived, that they presented Articles of Reformation against the Cloaths of their Sovereign and her Ladies, as too fine; for which Presumption being check'd by the Earl of Murray, Know in a Rage, forbad him (in a Letter) to meddle with the Kirk or bis Affairs. And soon after, the Presbytery, not being consulted about the Queen's Intention to marry the Lord Darnley, Know, with the highest infolence

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solence, took upon him in all his Discourses to inveigh against the Match and the Queen; who thereupon sending for him, mildly, and with Teats stowing from her Eyes, expostulated with him, How low her Princely Nature had often descended, advising him to Moderation, and she would omit no Means that lay in her Power to make them quiet, and establish their Security; adding, That she could not without much Grief observe, That the more she was willing to restrain the Punishments of their Contempt of her Person and Authority, the more Liberty they took, and the more imposed on her Goodness.

THE fawcy Traytor, (for what better Name did he deserve?) in whom seem'd Epitomiz'd the whole implacable Spirit of the Geneva Faction, infolently. answer'd, That He had had too much Patience in. Suffering Abominations: That if he took Liberty of Speech in the Pulpit, the might take it as the pleas'd; since there he had no Superior but God; and that his GIFTS made him equal to any of her PEERS. And as for her Weeping, the vile Enthufiast faid, He could better sustain her Tears, than the Trouble of his Cause, or to betray the Commonwealth. Nor durst. the Queen question him for his Arrogance, knowing. the Strength of his Faction; And he proceeded to declare in his Sermons to the Publick, That the Land must lament for the Sins of the Queen; and comparing her to Simon Magus, urg'd it to be impossible that her Sins could be forgiven her, and that it was REBELLION in her not to turn Protestant. In this Manner could this fiery Spirit exert himself in Defiance of his Duty to his Prince, in Breach of all Laws Divine and Humane; and in Opposition to

BUT

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the Precepts of that Holy Gofpel which the whole Sect pretended to hold to Sacred, and which to the sales enjoyed Sabmiffion to the Supreme Powers. And this was the Sect, and these the Men, who have raised with fuch Vehemence against the Power of the Pope, and the Authority of Bishops; for no other End, than to establish, according to the Geneva Discipline, a Pope in every Parish far more absolute and independent of the State, than ever the Roman Pontiff precended out of his own Temporality. And these are the Menwho have so often reproach'd and vility'd the Lawful and Nationally-establish'd Clergy of England, on Pretence that they aim'd at an Independence of the State in Spirituals! And had Queen Elizabeth proceeded to the greatest Rigors in inforcing Uniformity of Worship and Conformity to her Laws, she would have been sufficiently justify'd by the abominable Be. haviour of these Disciplinarians in her Neighbour Kingdom. there he find no Superior line Cul

BUT to proceed as briefly as possible: The Brethren, in an Assembly held at Edinburgh, drew up a Petition, which, among other Things, insisted, That the Queen and all her Family should renounce Popery, and that, without Exception of Quality or Degree, all should be punished who refused Compliance. To which that Princess patiently answer'd, That he had been educated in the Roman Catholick Religion, and did believe it was grounded on God's Word; and that therefore, as she freely gave Liberty of Conscience to all who were of a contrary Opinion, she hoped her Subjects would not deal harder by her than she did by them.

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BUT this mild and gracious Answer was far from influencing their stubborn Spirits to Peace. On the contrary, the Queen's Marriage with Lord Darmley taking Effect, and he being declared King, they slew to Arms; and obliged the New King in his own Defence to raise Troops. But before any Hostilities, he was resolved to try to soften their Spirits, and condescended to appear at their Worship, and to heat Know Preach at Giles's Kirk at Edinburgh. But was there affronted and told to his Face by that Incendiary, That for the Sins of the People, God had given them Women and Boys to rule over them (the New King being but Twenty-one) and he continued railing against the Administration with the utmost Virulence.

AFTER this, the barbarous Murder of the King occasioning Tumults, and the Kirk Party endeavouring villainously to fasten the Fact on the unhappy Queen, a Civil War enfued, wherein the Queen being worsted, they seized on her Person, and compelled her to refign her Title to her Infant Son, then about a Year old; and to make fure Work, Know and other Ministers, endeavour'd to persuade the Leaders of the Rebels to put her to Death, as well as to depose her. But the Queen making her Escape, raised fome Forces, and being again worsted, fled into England for Refuge; and after Eighteen Years close Imprisonment, occasion'd by Misunderstandings between the two Queens, to the Surprize of the whole World, she lost her Head; to which strange Fact; the Instigation of her Subjects of the Kirk Party, principally crontributed.

Y 4

IAM

I AM afraid I shall appear too prolis, and take up too much of your excellent Paper; But there is fuch a vast Field of Matter, and the Behaviour of these Hypocritical Men in all Ages from their first Origine, affords fuch flagrant Inflances of their merely Outside Pretensions to Godliness, and the rebellious Spirit which feems inherent to their Principles. that I know not how to confine myself to narrow Bounds, But when 'tis confider'd, That by your Means, in this Critical Juncture, When the Diffenters boast of the Favours by which they are distinguish'd from other and better Subjects; When their past Se. ditions and Violences feem to be not only forgiven. but forgotten, notwithstanding their re-iterated Provocations, and that on all Occasions from their Conpenticles they still continue to exclaim against and revile the Discipline and Members of the Establish's Church; When that Excellent Church - But no more! lest while I reflect upon the criminal Behaviour of the Sectaries, I may feem to fall into their Error, and appear less Respectful to Superiors than my Principles oblige from me: I shall only add, That in such a Juncture, I hope the Importance of the Subject will be my Excuse, if I trespass a little more on your Goodness than I at first intended. especially when the General Approbation your Paper. meets with, is another Inducement, as it feems to promise something like an Immortality to the Subjects it contains. My next Letter shall, however, conclude the Trouble.

Humble Servant, ORTHODOX

